Postgraduate Open Events at SOAS

In 2017 we have open events on 28 January, 23 March and 8 June, with a further event in November.

This is your opportunity to:

• meet our Research Tutors
• tour the main campus and the Doctoral School hub
• join us for some light refreshments and networking

To find out more please visit:

www.soas.ac.uk/pgevents
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SOAS Postgraduate Research 2016
Welcome

SOAS is a remarkable institution. With our vast repository of knowledge and expertise on our specialist regions, we are uniquely placed to inform and shape current thinking about the economic, political, cultural, security and religious challenges of our world.

It is an exciting time to be joining SOAS; our centenary celebrations began in 2016 and continue right the way through until July 2017. Our campus has united around one location in historic Bloomsbury with the opening of the North Block of Senate House – one of London’s most iconic buildings, which we have transformed into a cutting edge facility for teaching and learning.

We look forward to welcoming you to our community.

Baroness Valerie Amos
Director

For more information go to www.soas.ac.uk
We now offer twenty-four specialised doctoral research programmes, supported both by our disciplinary Departments, Centres and Schools, and by the SOAS Doctoral School that networks the entire body of around 750 doctoral researchers to provide them with research training and advice. The Doctoral School works closely with your Research Students’ Association to make the doctoral journey enjoyable and fulfilling.

The Doctoral School’s main hub is a beautiful, listed Bloomsbury townhouse of the kind Virginia Woolf, John Maynard Keynes, T.S Eliot and others would have known well. It offers 100 workstations, kitchen and common room where you can work and socialize with your fellow doctoral researchers. There are other work spaces in the main College Building.

This Prospectus is in two parts. The first part provides general information about SOAS, who and where we are, what we do, and how you can apply to us. The second part lists the research programmes that might interest you here and the Departments, Centres and Schools through which we deliver their disciplinary cores. We also aim to give you an impression of the wider research culture that may attract you, though there is more to this than we can easily summarize.

To learn more, and to find the most up-to-date information on all our Programmes, please visit the SOAS website. We encourage you to contact a potential supervisor, since this will help you to complete your online application. All applications are examined closely. Competition for scholarships and studentships is intense, so these typically have early closing dates.

If you need further information please contact dsadmissions@soas.ac.uk who will be happy to advise you.

We look forward to welcoming you to SOAS.

Professor Richard Fardon FBA
Head of the Doctoral School
Why SOAS for postgraduate study?

100 years of excellence in learning and research
Our centenary year runs from June 2016 to July 2017. A year of events and activities with our world-wide community will mark our achievements of the last hundred years and chart our future course as a scholarly resource of global relevance, guardian of specialist knowledge and champion of the issues that matter in the regions that matter in the 21st century.

£40m in campus investment
Since 2004, the SOAS Estate has undergone a massive transformation through a 40 million programme of development – including the ambitious Senate House North Block project. This historic Grade II listed building has revolutionised the SOAS student experience: the student hub acts as a one stop shop for all non-academic enquiries and state-of-the-art learning and teaching facilities and contemporary social spaces are enjoyed by students and staff alike. The move has united the SOAS Estate around its Bloomsbury campus in the very heart of London (HESA Estates Management Record).

A host of postgraduate-exclusive benefits
From computer rooms and social spaces, to halls of residence and scholarships, SOAS provides exceptional support to its valued cohort of postgraduate students, both on the research and taught tracks of study.

An international student community
SOAS welcomes the brightest minds from over 130 different countries, creating a community that is diverse, vibrant and multinational. SOAS has the ninth highest percentage of international students in the UK (Complete University Guide 2015).

A rigorous and challenging academic environment
We are a world-class institution for teaching and research, with one of the best student:staff ratios (11:1) in the UK.

A qualification that prepares you for a career in a complex world
In a world of shrinking borders, the international expertise of our graduates is highly valued by employers both in the UK and the wider world. A degree from SOAS prepares you for a career within a global economy and multicultural world.

SOAS provides exceptional support to its valued cohort of postgraduate students, both on the research and taught tracks of study.

For more information go to www.soas.ac.uk
ONE OF ONLY 5 NATIONAL UK RESEARCH LIBRARIES AND...

£40M IN CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

1.2M ITEMS

THE BRIGHTEST MINDS FROM OVER

130 COUNTRIES

100 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING AND RESEARCH

ONE OF THE BEST STUDENT:STAFF

11:1 RATIOS IN THE UK

30 SCHOLARSHIPS ARE RESERVED FOR RESEARCH STUDENTS’
SOAS is known around both the University of London and the wider community in Bloomsbury as a social hub. Our Junior Common Room is famous for its music scene, helped by the output of the much-acclaimed SOAS Radio, having played host to everyone from Manu Chao to Nirvana. Our bar has served for decades as the home of after-hours discussion, debate and other important activities.

SOAS is situated in the very heart of London in historic Bloomsbury, an area renowned for its fashionable cafés and restaurants, green spaces, book stores, museums and arts venues. The British Museum, British Library, Regent’s Park and the West End are all within walking distance of our vibrant campus.

SOAS is also close to several Underground stations, making it easy for you to explore all parts of this great city. Don’t forget: students are eligible for 30% off their weekly travelcard.

London is one of the most cosmopolitan and diverse cities in the world; it offers an unparalleled student experience.
Life at SOAS

Being a student at SOAS gives you a chance to enjoy the finest cultural attractions on offer.

FREE
ENTRY TO MANY OF THE CAPITAL’S FINEST MUSEUMS

NIGHTLIFE OPTIONS THAT ARE SECOND TO NONE

350,000+
STUDENTS IN LONDON

HOME TO MANY OF THE BIGGEST GRADUATE EMPLOYERS
Research

SOAS is a research-intensive institution

We have over 400 specialist academics who, through their research, endeavour to make a long-term positive impact on the societies and cultures in the regions we work in.

We are world-renowned for our regional focus. Our research expertise in languages, political and social sciences, arts and humanities provides the resources and knowledge to equip people for a global economy and a multicultural world.

Centenary research themes

Throughout the School’s centenary year, which runs from June 2016 to July 2017, we will be exploring five centenary research themes that will go on to frame our key aspirations for the future.

They are:

• Global voices
• Heritage of humanity
• Global interactions
• Sharing a small planet
• Global diplomacy and governance

You can find more information about these themes on our website: www.soas.ac.uk/research

Our academics employ unique perspectives and collaborative approaches; distinctive regional focus and global relevance are the hallmarks of our research.

You can study for a research degree across the full spectrum of our subject offerings. Go to www.soas.ac.uk/admissions for more information on what we offer. There are examples of specific research projects our academics are engaged in throughout the programme section of this prospectus.

CHECK OUT OUR RESEARCH BLOG
blogs.soas.ac.uk/research
Facilities

The Library

The SOAS Library is one of only five national research libraries in the UK, providing unique, specialist resources for our students, as well as scholars from around the globe.

Language laboratories

Dedicated language laboratories and two open access language resource rooms are available to students, as well as a recording studio for the production of high-quality audio and video. Students also have access to satellite television offering up to 80 channels.

Brunei Gallery and Japanese Roof Garden

The Brunei Gallery hosts a dynamic programme of changing contemporary and historical exhibitions from Asia, Africa and the Middle East. It is also a valued member of the Museum Mile – a collective of 13 of the capital’s most superlative museums and galleries that also includes the world-famous British Museum.

The Japanese Roof Garden offers tranquillity and respite from the noise and bustle of London’s streets. It was built during the Japan 2001 celebrations and was officially opened by the sponsor, Mr Haruhisa Handa (Toshu Fukami), an Honorary Fellow of the School.

Faith and prayer rooms

There are prayer rooms available at multiple locations on our Estate and SOAS students can also use the multi-faith prayer room in the Institute of Education, which is right next to our main building.
1.2M+ ITEMS HELD IN THE LIBRARY
4,000 SUBSCRIPTIONS TO PERIODICALS
70+ RESEARCH DATABASES
900+ SEATS FOR READERS
The area beneath the glass roof is a 1,000 square metre social learning platform and café. The development also includes a new physical Student Hub including accommodation, programme registration, student finance, careers and enterprise services. This photo was taken 2 months prior to opening.

Rainfall is collected from the roof and transported to a rainwater harvester for use in flushing the building’s toilets.
Paul Webley Wing

SOAS has recently unveiled the latest addition to our buzzing campus – the Paul Webley Wing.

This iconic, 1930s Grade II listed building was London’s first skyscraper and George Orwell’s inspiration for the Ministry of Truth in his dystopic novel *1984* – now, it is a state-of-the-art research, learning and teaching environment, which has unified the entire SOAS campus onto one site in historic Bloomsbury. It opened its doors on 7 September 2016.

A state-of-the-art research, learning and teaching environment

One of the key aims with the ‘SOAS into Senate House’ project has been sustainability. The glass roof allows for natural light and ventilation that helps keep running costs and energy consumption low.

Photos: © Matt Clayton Photography
The Careers Service at SOAS has a wide range of services and support dedicated to our PhD research students. We are skilled in helping students who may already have extensive work experience as well as those who have just graduated from their first degree. We know it is an intensive year for you, and so we want to encourage you to work with the Careers Service as early as possible during your time at SOAS.
PhD researchers are advised to build their CVs and develop their careers early. Careers staff are available to advise and regular workshops are offered to help researchers aiming to work in academia or industry.

Please remember to complete the careers registration part of the registration process as fully as possible - what you tell us about your stage of career thinking helps us to tailor our services to SOAS students.

The links and the ‘Careers Lifeline’ on our web page (www.soas.ac.uk/careers) will give you more information about how to develop your career ideas.

We provide a dedicated service specifically for doctoral students and early career researchers (PhD students and postdoctoral fellows) to help them with all aspects of planning their careers.

The service is comprised of personal advice and guidance, workshops on various career-related topics and information on career planning, options available and making successful job applications.

The links and the ‘Careers Lifecycle’ process will give you more information about how to develop your career ideas
Finding a job or internship

Some organisations have application deadlines in the autumn term whilst others will have later deadlines or expect you to apply nearer to the time when you are able to start work. It is important that you understand how the sector in which you are interested recruits. Our Moodle site, available to students, has more information on this as well as occupational pages which list specific vacancy sources. Our dedicated Internships Officer runs weekly drop-in sessions every Wednesday for any specific queries or for general guidance.

Help with applications

We provide information and one-to-one careers advice on the application process, including CVs and covering letters plus help with preparation for interviews including practice interviews.

Not sure what to do next?

We can help you plan your next step after your Masters and how you can use the coming year to research options, get relevant experience and develop your CV. The Careers Lifecycle will give you some ideas about some of the career planning and occupational resources to get you started.

Part-time work

Part-time or temporary work can help you develop skills as well as providing an additional income. Opportunities are advertised via the Careers Service.

Come to our events

The Careers Service plans employer presentations and careers fairs where you can talk to representatives from a range of different organisations about their recruitment plans. We also run sessions on topics such as making applications and using social media to support your career aspirations. All events are listed on our events page where you can get further information and book your place.

Visit the Careers Service

Once you arrive at SOAS, do come and visit us in the newly-opened Paul Webley Wing of Senate House of Senate House. You can also make an appointment to talk to a Careers Consultant.

Dates for your diary

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For more information and to book onto a webinar, go to: [www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/events](http://www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/events)

We look forward to working with you when you join SOAS and if you have any career related queries now, please do get in touch with us:

T: +44 (0) 20 7898 4115  
F: +44 (0) 20 7898 4119  
E: careers@soas.ac.uk
Financing your studies

There are many ways to finance your postgraduate study, so it is important to begin researching your funding opportunities as early as possible when considering your options.

Fee status
SOAS charges tuition fees at the Home or Overseas rate, depending on your fee status.

Your fee status depends on several factors, including residency and immigration. For more information on fee status regulations and the latest legislation, please visit the UKCISA website: www.ukcisa.org.uk

If you have a query about your fee status, please contact our Admissions Office, who will provide you with a fees questionnaire: dsadmissions@soas.ac.uk

Payment of fees
When you make your application, please state your proposed source of funds for postgraduate study or research at SOAS. Tuition fees are payable in full before or at enrolment at the beginning of the academic year. However, fee payments in two equal instalments by debit or credit card are available to self-funding students undertaking on-campus degree programmes that cost more than £1,500. Information on methods of payment can be found at: www.soas.ac.uk/registry/fees.

Please note: paying in two instalments will incur an administration charge.

Fee payment is the responsibility of the student. A guarantee of payment from a sponsoring agency recognised by the School will be accepted as proof of payment but the student remains responsible for the fees should the sponsor not pay.

You can find further information on fees, payments, scholarships and loans on our website at: www.soas.ac.uk/fees

Financial support for overseas students
Please contact the following organisations for details of the awards available for overseas students:

- British Council awards
- Foreign and Commonwealth Office awards

Visit www.gov.uk/funding-for-postgraduate-study for more information.

You can find further information on other sources of funding, such as educational loans and professional and career development loans, at www.soas.ac.uk/funding
The rates for each programme can be found next to each individual programme in the programme listings section of this prospectus.
Scholarships and awards

SOAS offers a diverse range of scholarships to help students finance their postgraduate research.

Scholarships at SOAS are awarded through a competitive application process. The majority of application deadlines are in the January/February preceding the academic year of entry. There are also a number of scholarships from external funders such as the British Government.

To find out about our complete range of awards (including deadlines, criteria and application instructions) and for links to external funding bodies, go to our website: www.soas.ac.uk/registry/scholarships

The examples below are just a sample of our total scholarship offering and new scholarships are being added all the time, so ensure you check the website at regular intervals in order to avoid missing out.

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**Santander Scholarship**

£1,000 towards mobility awards / travel grants per student
UK/EU/Overseas

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**SOAS Research Studentships**

For any eligible full-time MPhil/PhD degree programme
£25,000
One scholarship per year aimed at various degrees relating to the Middle East/Islam
UK/EU/Overseas

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**Mo Ibrahim Scholarship**

Three full MSc scholarships and one full PhD scholarship per year in the field of Governance for Development in Africa
Overseas

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**Alphawood Scholarship**

Scholarships for students from Southeast Asian countries to study for a Postgraduate Diploma Art/Taught Masters/MPhil/PhD in Southeast Asian pre-modern Buddhist and Hindu Art
Overseas

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**CJSR Postgraduate Student Bursary**

For full-time or part-time MPhil/PhD in Japanese Religions in the Department of Religions and Philosopies (New admissions only)
Niharika Pandit
MA Gender Studies, 2015 (Felix Scholarship)

My experience at SOAS has been full of learning and has brought changes in me as a human being for the better. While my ideas about politics and gender issues were always present (if dormant), SOAS as an institution has helped me to solidify those ideas, have confidence in them, and be unapologetic about them. The concepts that I learned in the classroom and through my coursework have polished my understanding of gender theory and activist politics.

SOAS has also provided me with the space to remain connected with political issues back in India. Being multicultural, there is always a space for students to engage with issues of importance to them. In the aftermath of the tragic suicide case of Rohith Vemula, or the curb on free speech in JNU in Delhi, we were able to come together and raise our concerns against the government action. I doubt I would have found such an awareness and interest about issues in India at a different UK institution.

This year has really flown past and it will soon be time for me to return to India. My focus then will be on exploring gender research opportunities and working at the grassroots to be able to apply all that I have learned at SOAS. I am particularly interested to work in Kashmir and have been in touch with several humanitarian organisations working there. I also plan to apply for a PhD at SOAS after working for a while in India.

While my experience at SOAS and in London has been life-changing, none of this would have been possible without the Felix Scholarship, and the generosity of the benefactor is something I never fail to mention to my friends and peers as well. For myself, it would have been unimaginable to afford an education at SOAS.
All enrolled postgraduate research students are members of the RSA which serves the community of research students at SOAS to provide: peer support, share research practice, disseminate information and engage with the School to enhance the research student experience. As a member of the RSA, you will have opportunities to both benefit from, and contribute to, its activities designed to make the most of your time here.

As a sub-section of the SOAS Students’ Union, the RSA has three primary purposes:

1. To democratically represent postgraduate research students and their interests within the Students’ Union and other SOAS structures.

2. To organize educational and social events for the benefit of postgraduate research students. The RSA manages a seminar series about themes such as ‘The Fieldwork experience’, ‘The MPhil upgrade’ and ‘PhD Viva Seminar’.

3. To coordinate an annual postgraduate research conference and the publication of a postgraduate research students’ journal.

The RSA board, chaired by the Postgraduate Research Officer, is the core of association. The board coordinates the participation of research students in various committees (such as the Doctoral School Management Group, which gives them a voice in the management of the Doctoral School), as well as the social and academic activities of the association.

Contacts

The RSA (www.soas.ac.uk/research/rsa) has its own office in the basement of the Doctoral School, 53 Gordon Square.

E: researchsoc@soas.ac.uk

For more information go to www.soas.ac.uk
Accommodation

Whether you are looking to find a room in SOAS Halls of Residence, a private rented property or looking to find a place for both you and your partner/family, SOAS has a range of options to suit your needs.

The main options for postgraduates to choose from are halls of residence and private rented accommodation, but within both of these categories there is huge variety in terms of costs and location.

Information is available on the SOAS website, including other accommodation options and short-term accommodation for when you first arrive in London, at: www.soas.ac.uk/accommodation

However, we know it can be confusing finding a place to live in London, especially when there are so many locations and options to consider, so for further support or to speak to an adviser directly, please contact our Accommodations team: accommodation@soas.ac.uk

Halls of Residence

SOAS postgraduate students have exclusive access to Paul Robeson House and standard access to Dinwiddy House. Both premises are located on Pentonville Road, a 20-minute walk from the SOAS main campus. Paul Robeson House has 259 en-suite rooms. Both residences are managed by Sanctuary Students. Rent for the year 2016/17 was £151.43 per week for a single en-suite room in either accommodation.

Students who have been offered a place to study at SOAS and wish to live in university accommodation can apply online for a place in one of our student halls of residences from the 1 March using the accommodation serial number provided in their offer letter.

SOAS has secured a select number of rooms at Urbanest, St Pancras. 103 rooms are available exclusively to SOAS students at a special reduced rate. All private and en-suite rooms come furnished with double beds, a wardrobe, storage areas and a sizable desk area for study. Applications for this residence are accepted on a first come, first served basis.

For further information on how to apply for university accommodation, please visit Sanctuary Students at www.soas.ac.uk/accommodation

Intercollegiate halls

Postgraduate students are also entitled to apply for a place in one of seven Intercollegiate Halls owned and maintained by the University of London. This provides a great opportunity to meet students from other colleges of the university. All provide catering, offering breakfast and evening meals on weekdays and all meals at weekends. Rents for the year 2016/17 were from £177.45 for a single en-suite room.

Private rented accommodation

55% of SOAS students live in private rented accommodation as this option offers more privacy, independence and, depending on the location, can provide more value for money than living in halls of residence. The two main factors to consider when thinking about private rented accommodation are your budget and the area of London you would like to live in. Areas in London tend to be very diverse, some offer plentiful green spaces or easy access canals and wildlife, whilst others are known for a lively music scene, weekly markets or independent shops.

Different communities often live in different areas, so if you’re learning a language at SOAS you could choose an area where you can practice with the locals! Rents in the private sector vary from £110-220 per week.

SOAS, with the support of the University of London Housing Services, can help guide you through the process of finding somewhere to stay. We offer housing events running from May to October, one to one support, contract checks and house hunting resources. If you are looking for private rented accommodation, we advise that you come to London before the start of your studies to find a suitable place to live.

For more information go to www.soas.ac.uk
Student Homes
Student Homes are houses leased by the University of London to SOAS students, guaranteeing a good quality, well managed property. There are a range of houses available, including one 12 bedroom property exclusively for postgraduate students. Student Homes may be booked from outside of the UK, with no need for viewing. Rents start at £135 per week. [http://studenthomes.london.ac.uk/prospective/soas](http://studenthomes.london.ac.uk/prospective/soas)

Students with families
There are a range of accommodation options for students who are moving to London with their family or partner. There are studios and flats available in university halls of residence, housing associations and privately run halls that offer family accommodation, as well as private rented accommodation. Contact the Housing Adviser for more information.

Accessibility
The SOAS halls of residence Dinwiddy House and Paul Robeson House both have wheelchair access and specially equipped rooms. These are located 1 mile from the main campus or up a short hill from the Vernon Square campus. The Intercollegiate Halls also offer accessible rooms and are located 0.3 miles from the main campus. Contact the SOAS Disability Advisors on disabilities@soas.ac.uk to discuss your particular accessibility and accommodation requirements prior to application.

Contact
For more information about housing options at SOAS and for further support, contact the SOAS Housing Adviser: accommodation@soas.ac.uk
We offer a range of support services on non-academic matters
Support services

We pride ourselves on providing a friendly and stimulating environment for our community. However, we know that coming to university can present challenges, no matter what stage of your further education you are at. Therefore, we offer a range of support services on non-academic matters, covering areas such as finance, immigration, exam worries and other personal issues.

For full details, go to www.soas.ac.uk/studentadviceandwellbeing
T: +44 (0) 20 7074 5015
E: studentadviceandwellbeing@soas.ac.uk

Welfare and international student advice
The International Student and Welfare Advisor provides impartial and confidential advice on non-academic issues such as student finance, visas and immigration, welfare benefits, childcare and general personal issues.
E: welfare@soas.ac.uk

Counselling
Professionally trained counsellors provide confidential support for students facing problems of a personal or emotional nature.
T: +44 (0) 20 7074 5016/7
E: counsellors@soas.ac.uk

Health and wellbeing
The Mental Health and Wellbeing Advisor offers professional one-off meetings or ongoing support where students may be struggling to manage their wellbeing whilst at the School or where there may be ongoing mental health concerns. The Advisor can liaise both with internal departments and external agencies depending upon need.
Support meetings and workshops are also offered and in some instances a mentor can be provided for structured support.
T: +44 (0) 20 7074 5013
E: sk110@soas.ac.uk

Learning advice
Our Learning Advisors offer support and advice for students relating to specific learning differences (SpLDs). SpLDs include: dyslexia, dyspraxia, AD(H)D and dyscalculia. They also provide advice and support regarding other disabilities or issues that can impact on learning, such as depression, anxiety and procrastination.

Disability advice
The Student Disability Advisors offer information, advice and support to students. The Disability Officer also negotiates individual adjustments for disabled students to make the School accessible to them. These can include:
• adjustments to exam arrangements and Library services;
• arranging specialist support, such as learning support, mentoring and sessions with the Mental Health and Wellbeing Advisor;
• offering loan equipment (such as digital recorders and laptops with specialist software); and
• creating a learning support agreement which specifies any recommended adjustments so that academic and teaching staff are aware of them.

The majority of SOAS buildings are accessible for wheelchair users and changes can be made to timetabling to ensure that all rooms are accessible where students are unable to use stepped access. There is also some Braille and tactile signage.
Postgraduate research is key to SOAS’s academic life: around 180 new doctoral candidates join the School’s thriving research culture annually and contribute to conferences, publications and events as well as gathering data in the field in more than 140 countries.

Doctoral Researchers

Undertaking a research degree is the opportunity to develop an in-depth knowledge of a discipline, region and subject, to become familiar with current research techniques and methodologies, and to acquire a range of transferable skills and life experiences.

Work space and Training

Doctoral researchers enjoy exclusive use of dedicated work spaces with computing and other facilities at the Russell Square campus. Among the larger suites are a computer laboratory (c. 50 workstations) in the main college building, with full disabled access, and the Doctoral School’s hub at 53 Gordon Square in a historic Bloomsbury town house. This building has 100 workstations and social space spread over five floors.

Each doctoral researcher will develop a personalized training programme with the help of their supervisor and the information and support resources of the Doctoral School, including the Doctoral Training Advisor and the Careers Consultant for Doctoral Students and Early Career Researchers. The Doctoral School can also advise on which of SOAS’s professional services is best able to provide support on a wide range of non-academic concerns, including international student matters, disability advice, financial advice and guidance on regulatory matters and degree requirements and a host of other issues relevant to research students.

Supervision

Supervisory committees for doctoral researchers at SOAS usually have three members; the researcher is primarily affiliated to the Department or Centre to which their first supervisor belongs. Other members of the supervisory committee may not belong to the same department but rather provide complementary inter-disciplinary or regional expertise. All supervisors and doctoral researchers are members of the SOAS Doctoral School, which provides additional up-to-date facilities, including exclusive research student study and social space, to support their research.

The research skills and wider training needs of each doctoral researcher are discussed, and recorded in the student logbook, in the form of a ‘training needs analysis’, together with the supervisor, at the start of each academic year. Some of these needs will be met by disciplinary training within the Centre or Department to which the research student is affiliated. Other elements may be provided within SOAS by other Centres or Departments, or through SOAS-based courses run specifically for postgraduate and early career researchers. Some specialized training needs may be met outside SOAS, by our partners in the Bloomsbury Postgraduate Skills Network, or within our ESRC or AHRC Doctoral Training Partnerships, or further afield if necessary.

The SOAS Academic Environment

Doctoral candidates join a community of internationally renowned scholars, as well as visiting researchers and lecturers from around the world, who attend the frequent conferences, lectures and workshops in our well-equipped conference facilities.

SOAS staff are prolific authors and editors. We also produce internationally-recognized academic journals and monographs in-house, including The Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies, The China Quarterly and The Journal of African Law. These journals welcome contributions of the very highest calibre, including those from research students, who also run their own journal, the SOAS Journal of Postgraduate Research.
Become part of a distinguished alumni

On completing your studies at SOAS, you become part of a global network of over 53,000 SOAS alumni across 190 countries. Whatever your plans and wherever life may take you after graduation, we look forward to helping you stay connected with SOAS through your alumni network.

Online
Your dedicated alumni website (www.soasalumni.org) includes an online alumni and careers directory, job postings and news and events.

Events
Receive invitations to SOAS events taking place both on campus and around the world, including lectures, exhibitions, social gatherings and guest presentations.

Professional networking
Benefit from the professional knowledge and experience of other SOAS alumni, as well as continued access to career services.

International alumni
If you are returning home or travelling abroad during or after your studies at SOAS, you can get in touch with your regional alumni group – a valuable resource for social and professional networking.

Alumni & Friends Fund
SOAS’ generous alumni provide valuable financial support to the next generation of students through the Alumni & Friends Fund, supporting scholarships, the SOAS Library, hardship grants and entrepreneurial student projects at SOAS.

In the news
Stay connected with the news from in and around SOAS with SOAS World – the topical alumni magazine, and monthly e-bulletins and events invitations.

Ethiopian coffee ceremony in the Japanese Roof Garden, part of the SOAS Alumni and Friends Weekend 2011.

Last March an Alumni Social was held in Yangon, Myanmar. Alumni events take place on campus and all around the world.
Alumna Deborah Smith  
MA Korean Studies, 2012

Deborah translated from Korean into English the 2016 Man Booker International Prize Winner The Vegetarian by Hang Kang.

“SOAS has unique expertise...I was very much attracted by the school’s ethos of open, equitable engagement with the world, and its lively student culture.

“The book would never have come about without the language training I received at SOAS, and the contacts I’ve made as a student here; now it’s kick-started a career that will enable me to go on using the skills I’ve gained here to make a cultural impact beyond academia.”

Deborah translated the 2016 Man Booker International Prize Winner The Vegetarian by Hang Kang, from Korean into English.

“The book would never have come about without the language training I received at SOAS, and the contacts I’ve made as a student here.”
Applying for a Postgraduate Research Degree

The SOAS Doctor of Philosophy (MPhil/PhD) programme is competitive and applicants should have a track record of high academic achievement and a wish to contribute to the current research interests of the Department or Centre. Interdisciplinary research is encouraged and supervision between Departments may be possible.

Applications should be submitted online at www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/pg/research. Applications will be processed by staff in the Doctoral School in cooperation with academics based in the relevant Departments and Centres. We encourage you to identify and contact potential supervisors for informal advice before (and after) submitting an application. Only one application for the MPhil/PhD programme may be submitted each year.

For September entry applications, the deadline for a complete application (including submission of supporting documentation and two confidential references) is 30 June each year. It is important to apply well before the start of the academic year in which you wish to enrol to allow us time to process your application. If you are applying for scholarships earlier deadlines may apply. Please see the website www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/pg/research/ for full instructions and guidance.
A SOAS MPhil/PhD is awarded on the basis of a three-year research project and the successful completion of a thesis within 48 months of full-time registration (or part-time equivalent). Examination is by assessment of the thesis by two independent examiners and by an oral examination (viva voce) of the thesis and the research on which it is based.

The PhD thesis should demonstrate an original contribution to scholarly knowledge and be a maximum of 100,000 words. At least in modified form, the thesis must be suitable for publication as a book or as an academic article.

For information on the expertise and research interests of SOAS staff, please visit the website: www.soas.ac.uk/academic

Minimum Entry Requirements

The normal minimum entry requirement is a UK Master’s degree or overseas equivalent as recognized by SOAS. The Master’s degree should normally be in the same discipline as the proposed research and have been completed with a high grade in the taught elements and in the final dissertation.

An offer of a place to study at SOAS will depend upon an assessment of the applicant’s academic qualifications and background, references from academics, a Research Proposal outlining the intended research and how it complements existing Departmental work and the level of English language competence as indicated in the application. Students already in the UK may be asked to attend in person for an interview. Students elsewhere may be asked to make personal contact by other means (web or telephone).

Length of Study

In common with most other British universities, SOAS does not normally offer candidates registration for a PhD at the outset. Doctoral candidates are initially registered for an MPhil and later, usually by the end of June in the first full-time year, are transferred to PhD registration if their progress is satisfactory. PhD registration will be effective retrospectively, from the date on which the candidates first registered for their MPhil. It is not possible to register for the MPhil in its own right as this can only be awarded at SOAS in cases where the candidate fails to meet the requirements of the PhD programme.

A full-time MPhil/PhD researcher is expected to complete a research project within three years, and must submit a thesis for examination within 48 months of initial registration.

Part-time Study

It is possible to complete a research degree as a part-time researcher, in which case the period of study is doubled (six years instead of three) and submission is required within 84 months of initial registration. Researchers may enrol on a part-time basis if the relevant academic department is prepared to accept them on this basis and the candidate completes a part-time study declaration form.

Although the majority of doctoral researchers undertake research degrees on a full-time basis, part-time study should be considered seriously by Home/ EU applicants who may be required to balance their research with employment or personal commitments.

Doctoral researchers from non-EU countries whose right to stay in the UK is restricted should note that they will not be able to study part-time. You should ensure you are in possession of a valid and appropriate study visa, permitting you entry into the UK. Further information can be found at www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/international/entry/types-of-student-visas/

Research Programme Structure

There is some variation between programmes (for which see the individual specifications on the website), but in general a full-time doctoral candidate registering for an MPhil with the intention of completing a PhD can expect to follow a programme with the structure outlined below. They also attend weekly regional and/or departmental (disciplinary) research seminars in all years and during the third year must present at least one research paper to that seminar or an equivalent. Doctoral candidates are expected to be based in London unless on a period of approved fieldwork overseas.
Year 1 –

Project development and research training

Doctoral candidates will undertake a programme of seminars and courses designed to provide research training - depending on their individual annual needs assessment, these might include courses on research methodologies, statistical methods, using and creating databases, using web-based resources, or others of relevance to the research area and more rounded development as an early-career researcher. On the basis of this skills development, as well as supervised research, the doctoral candidate will develop a detailed research proposal and may undertake the first stages of research. This work will be aimed at meeting the particular requirements for transfer to PhD status in the discipline during the upgrade process. Disciplinary requirements vary, but these may include a literature review, fieldwork proposal, initial draft of some chapters, or an outline of the main arguments of the thesis. Exactly what is required will depend on your discipline and topic (whether it is predominantly: quantitative or qualitative; library, archive or fieldwork-based; deductive or inductive; and so forth), but irrespective of the content of your thesis, the upgrade process is when you have to demonstrate your capacity to take the work to completion.

Year 2 –

Fieldwork and data collection

This may vary according to discipline, but having been upgraded to PhD, the second year is usually the year in which primary research is conducted most intensively. This may involve a period of fieldwork, or time spent in archives, or carrying out interviews, undertaking observation or data collection. The shape of the completed thesis should begin to emerge in draft by the end of this period.

Year 3 –

Writing-up

The objective is to finish research and write a complete draft of thesis. Most departments organize seminars at which doctoral researchers returning from fieldwork are expected to present the results of their work-in-progress and receive feedback from both academics and research fellows. Supervisors will help to refine and polish the arguments of the chapters.

Year 4 –

Extension of writing-up (continuation status)

(optional – subject to approval by Supervisory Team)

Any work done at this stage will normally involve only redrafting of chapters. The thesis must be submitted for examination during this year.

Applying for a Postgraduate Research Degree

For more information go to www.soas.ac.uk
Professional development
Teaching experience as a Graduate Training Assistant (GTA) may be available to some third and fourth-year PhD doctoral researchers who have already completed the mandatory teacher training courses provided at SOAS, and vacancies will be advertised on the SOAS Vacancies page. As it is dependent on the demand for teaching as well as an assessment on whether the doctoral researcher’s progress towards this completion makes this extra responsibility and call upon their time advisable, this opportunity cannot be guaranteed for everyone.

Examination
The examination (or viva voce) is conducted by two examiners, at least one of whom is from a University other than SOAS. Your supervisor is not one of these examiners, though they may be present at the viva as an observer.

Regulations
Full details of the conditions applying to these degrees can be obtained from the Doctoral School web pages at www.soas.ac.uk/doctoralschool.

Our policies on the conduct and supervision of research degrees are also available from the website and are set out in the Code of Practice for Research Degrees, which is updated annually and which every doctoral researcher receives at the time of registration.

Tuition fees
Information on tuition fees (updated annually) for research degrees can be found at: www.soas.ac.uk/fees

Fee status
Your Home/EU or Overseas fee status is determined at the stage of application. Information on the fee status regulations can be found at: www.ukcisa.org.uk
If you have any queries about your fee status please contact dsadmissions@soas.ac.uk
Scholarships, studentships and funding

SOAS offers a range of scholarships and awards for research students such as the SOAS Research Studentships and the Bloomsbury Scholarships, and SOAS Fieldwork Awards. There are also a number of externally funded scholarships from Government funding, such as the ESRC Studentships administered through the UBEL (UCL, Bloomsbury and East London) and from generous donors such as the Wolfson, the Sochon Foundation, as well as the Kayoko Tsuda Bursary to fund the completion of a thesis.

Scholarships and awards offered by SOAS are allocated through a competitive application process usually on the basis of academic merit. The range of scholarships is diverse – some support students from specific countries or a group of countries, while others focus on particular courses of study or research. Full details of the deadlines, application process and criteria of SOAS scholarships can be found at www.soas.ac.uk/scholarships along with links to external bodies which offer other funding opportunities with separate application processes.

Funding may also be available from your home country. Around 60 research students in each academic year are funded by their employer, a charitable foundation or by their government. Doctoral researchers also fund their studies through academic loans and awards from their home country, such as Canadian loans, US Federal Direct loans or Veterans Affairs Funding. Information for US Federal Direct Loans application processes can be found at www.soas.ac.uk/funding

Visiting research students

The Visiting Research Students (VRS) scheme is designed for students already embarked on doctoral research with their home university but who are planning to conduct research in London, or who wish to take advantage of the unique resources SOAS and London have to offer.

VRSs benefit from most of the privileges enjoyed by the School’s research degree students. They are allocated a research supervisor, are attached to the academic Department of the supervisor and to the Doctoral School, are full members of the SOAS Library, may use the School’s student computing facilities, may attend School and Departmental research seminars, may be granted membership of the relevant School Regional Centre and can enjoy the social benefits of being students of the School. VRSs may, by arrangement with the staff concerned, audit (attend but not be registered for or examined in) classes in areas relevant to their research.

Period of study and supervision for visiting research students

VRSs can expect up to approximately five hours of supervision per term. They normally enrol full-time for a maximum of one year (usually beginning in September/October). The minimum enrolment period is one term. Students whose enrolment period includes the summer term have the added benefit of continuing enrolment through to the beginning of the next academic year with no additional charge, although there may be only limited access to their supervisor during the summer vacation period.

Tuition fees for visiting research students

For current fees, consult www.soas.ac.uk/fees

Certification for visiting research students

VRSs are not normally registered for a degree programme, are not formally assessed on their work, and cannot be awarded a SOAS qualification. A certificate of attendance will be provided on request at the end of the enrolment period.

Entry qualifications for visiting research students

There are no specific VRS qualifications to fulfil, but the School will wish to be satisfied that applicants have the background and experience necessary to undertake research work, and also sufficient command of the English language. In these respects, considerations applying to VRS applications are the same as for research student applications in general.
English language requirements
(all research students)

SOAS requires all students, who have been educated outside one of the Home Office list of native-speaking countries (or educated for less than three years at degree level within one of those countries), to submit an approved English test result. This relates also to the demands of the Home Office for an authorised SELT. Any test score submitted as evidence of an applicant’s academic English proficiency must relate to a test taken no more than two years prior to the start of the relevant academic year. For the most up to date and detailed statement on SOAS English Language Requirements please consult our website at www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/international/englishrequirements

How to apply

To apply for an MPhil/PhD at SOAS we require a completed application form. Further guidance is available on our website www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/pg/research/howtoapply/. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all necessary documents (including translations and references) have been submitted. Applications are not considered complete and will not be assessed by academic selectors if they are missing any of the following items:

1. A completed formal application form
2. A supporting statement
3. An up-to-date CV or Resumé
4. A Research Proposal (Please see the website guidance notes for suggestions on structure and content)
5. Full academic transcripts of your College/University studies to date (with official translations from the institution or provided by a recognized translator if not in English)
6. Copies of your degree certificates (with official translations from the institution or provided by a recognized translator if not in English)
7. Evidence of your English language proficiency or intention to take a recognized English Language Test
8. Two academic references - confidentially submitted by your referees.

The Doctoral School will email you when your application is complete and has gone forward for consideration by the Department. Incomplete applications, missing any of the above elements, cannot be considered until all documents have been submitted.
Closing dates and timings for PhD and VRS applications

Applications for the academic year 2017-18 will be accepted from November 2016 onwards, and Departments start considering them from mid-November provided the application is complete with references. **Applicants should note that incomplete applications (where, for example, supporting documents and references are missing) are not forwarded to the Departments until the required information has been submitted.**

All applications for research studies beginning in September 2017 must be completed with acceptable references no later than **30 June 2017 or the deadline as specified by the Department.** Please see www.soas.ac.uk/academic/ for details of the Department you require. Late applications may be considered exceptionally only if places are available. If you are applying for scholarships or grants from SOAS you should submit your application as early as possible and certainly no later than six weeks before the scholarship deadlines. The deadline for most SOAS scholarships will be the end of January 2017 other deadlines will be advised by Scholarships on their website.

Outcome and offers

Each application is considered carefully, and we hope to make a decision within six weeks of a complete application (including original references) being received. At some times of the year the processing of applications may take longer. Applications should therefore be made as early as possible. Offer letters are sent by email.

The offer of a place at SOAS for a research degree is normally dependent on submission and approval of a suitable research topic (usually in the form of a statement of 1,000-2,000 words, outlining the research method and sources likely to be used). Research topics must be agreed upon prior to offer being made, any amendments to the topic applied for must be agreed upon by the student and his/her supervisor as soon as possible, and not later than six weeks after registration.
The Department of Anthropology and Sociology at SOAS University of London has been recognized for its outstanding research output in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework. The Department’s research outputs were especially highly-regarded, coming 4th nationally. In addition to its world-leading publications, the research has significant influence on policy, practice and public education worldwide. SOAS anthropologists have contributed their expertise to international development agencies, museums and galleries, UK asylum policy, as well as craft industries.

SOAS Anthropology is known for its theoretical sophistication, scholarly rigour and creativity. Our researchers are part of the largest concentration of Africa, Asia, and Middle East specialists in the United Kingdom. The Department has distinctive capabilities in regional historical research that enriches long-term anthropological work, for example in relation to West African art and ceremony (Fardon), South Asian religion and popular media (Mosse on Tamil Christianity; Hughes on south Indian film), and a major project restudying Indian village society that investigates rural change and anthropological knowledge in post-colonial India (Simpson). We are also looking in a more systematic way at Africa, Asia and the Middle East in Europe, and vice versa; reflecting the changing contours of global polity (Allen, Campbell, Latham, Leite, Mosse, Raman).

Our regional scholarship is further developed through concentrations in three research clusters: mobility, the anthropologies of governing and food studies.

Department academics typically conduct their research in several modalities: ethnographic and historical; collaborative and cross-disciplinary research; and research based on visual media, films and exhibitions. About half of our doctoral candidates are registered for postgraduate degrees, which creates a lively and supportive atmosphere for taught postgraduate students and doctoral researchers. The Department cultivates several specialist strengths that distinguish it from other anthropology departments in the UK. The most obvious of these is that all our staff are specialists on Asia, Africa and the Middle East. In addition, the SOAS Food Studies Centre and the Centre for Migration and Diaspora Studies host a large number of research associates and hold extensive seminar and research programmes offering doctoral researchers an unrivalled opportunity to develop their skills and careers.
Rethinking the ‘gap’ between policy and practice

David Mosse’s work on development aid policy and practice around the world has been highly cited by international development agencies and has significantly contributed to major development programme planning and policy debate among policymakers and practitioners, from the UK government’s Department for International Development (DFID) to the university sector in China and the World Bank.

Through his ethnographic study of rural development programmes in western India and international policy communities, Mosse demonstrates how the actions of development workers are actually shaped by the exigencies of organisations and the need to maintain relationships rather than by policy; but also how development actors at all levels work hardest to maintain coherent representations of their actions as instances of authorised policy. These findings are widely applicable in terms of rethinking the ‘gap’ between policy and practice, agency evaluations of programme success or failure, the social-institutional effects of policy change and understanding development impacts.
Recent Research Theses

Miranda Irving – Seeking Mobility and Stability: The Everyday Lives and Labours of Minangkabau Migrant Women in New Order Indonesia

Gabriel Klaeger – Speed Matters: An Ethnography of a Ghanaian Highway, its Perils and Potentialities

Seamus Murphy – Contested Meanings through Social Change; An Ethnography of Institutions, Organisations, Ideologies and Power in the Market Development of the Lake Chilwa Commons

Diana Ibanez Tirado – Temporality and Subjectivity in Kulob, Southern Tajikistan: An ethnography of ordinary people and their everyday lives

Sohini Sengupta – Being Hungry, Becoming Free: Marginality, Identity and Livelihoods in Rural Western Orissa

André Chappatte – Walking an earthly path; everyday Islam in Bougouni, a town of southwest Mali

Philomena Benedicta Camelia Keet – Mimicking in a Material World: Negotiating stylish selves and networks in a Tokyo youth fashion scene

Academic staff

Dr Lori Allen, BA, MA, PhD (Chicago), Palestine and the Middle East; human rights; nationalism; the United Nations; investigative commissions; political epistemologies; revolution; anthropology of violence; political anthropology; historical anthropology

Professor Paul Basu, MSc PhD (London) West Africa (especially Sierra Leone), cultural heritage and memory, museum anthropology, anthropology and archaeology of landscape, material culture and migration.

Dr John R Campbell BSc (Oregon State) MA (New York) DPhil (Sussex) Anthropology of law and the British asylum system; Eastern and NE Africa; development, ethnicity and nationalism

Dr Christopher Davis BA (Sarah Lawrence) MA PhD (Chicago) Central Africa: medical anthropology, interpretive anthropology; ethnographic writing; philosophical anthropology

Dr Catherine S Dolan BA (Colorado) MA PhD (Binghamton) East Africa; corporations and capitalism; moral economies; consumption and commodities, inclusive markets; anthropology of development; global commodity chains; politics and practices of food governance; gender

Professor Richard Fardon BSc (Econ) PhD (London) FBA Nigeria and Cameroon; politics and religion in historical perspective; theory in anthropology; art, film and photography in West Africa

Dr Fabio R Gygi MA (Tübingen) PhD (London) Anthropology of Japan; material and visual culture; medical anthropology; popular culture; gender; embodiment and performance
Dr Stephen P Hughes  BA (Bates Coll, Lewiston)  
MA PhD (Chicago)
India, especially the Tamil-speaking south; 
anthropology of media, documentary and 
ethnographic film, social and cultural history of 
film, drama, sound media, and the interface of 
religion, politics and mass media

Dr Elizabeth Hull,  BSc (London), MSc PhD 
(London)
South Africa; economic anthropology; 
anthropology of the state & institutions, 
bureaucracy, agriculture; livelihoods; health; 
nutrition; politics of food systems, food 
acquisition and consumption practices.

Dr Marloes Janson  MA PhD (Leiden)
West Africa (the Gambia, Senegal and Nigeria): 
anthropology of religion, religious reform (Islam 
and Pentecostalism), transnational religious 
networks, faith-based development; urban 
anthropology; popular culture, gender and youth

Dr Jakob Klein  BA (Lund) MA (Stockholm) MA PhD 
(London)
China (South), anthropology of food and eating; 
urban social relations

Dr Kevin Latham  BA (Oxon) PGDip (Zhangshan) 
MA PhD (London)
Hong Kong and Guangdong Province (PRC) and 
migrant communities in Europe: journalism, 
television and media, telecommunications, 
internet; Chinese theatre, popular culture, 
consumption

Dr Naomi Leite,  BA, MA, PhD (Berkeley)
Global interconnectivity, anthropology of tourism/ 
travel, migration and diaspora, social identities and 
cultural constitution of the self, heritage, religion, 
kinship/relatedness, anthropological theory and 
epistemology. Portugal, Portuguese and Jewish 
diasporas, post-colonial Lusophone world.

Professor David Mosse  MA DPhil (Oxon) FBA
India, especially Tamil Nadu: caste, religion, 
rural, vernacular Christianity, Adivasi identity; 
environmental history, common property 
resources, indigenous irrigation, participatory 
rural development, aid agencies, anthropology of 
development

Dr Caroline Osella  BA PhD (London)
Kerala, South Asia, South Asian diaspora: 
ethnophysiology, concepts of person, gender, 
ethnicity, psychology and anthropology, medical 
anthropology

Dr Parvathi Raman  BA PhD (London)
South Africa, India and UK: Indian and South 
African identity; African and Asian communities in 
London; diaspora

Dr Kostas Retsikas  BA (Athens) MA (Kent) PhD 
(Edinburgh)
South East Asia, notably Indonesia, Java; 
migration, ethnicity and the body and Islam

Professor Edward Simpson  BSc Sci (Manchester) 
PhD (London)
South Asia; Indian Ocean; Gujarat; anthropology 
of natural disasters, including political economy, 
memorials, memory and nostalgia, Islam

Dr Gabriele vom Bruck  MSc PhD (London)
Middle East with emphasis on the Arabian 
Peninsular (especially Yemen): elites, memory, 
gender, religion and politics
MA in Anthropological Research Methods may be taken either as a free-standing MA or as the first part of a PhD. In both instances the student must complete a programme of research training and submit a dissertation on an approved topic.

This programme is designed to train students in research skills to the level prescribed by the ESRC’s research training guidelines. It is intended for students with a good first degree in social anthropology or with a taught MA degree in anthropology. Most students would be expected to progress to PhD registration at the end of the degree, but it is also possible to take the MA as a stand-alone programme.

Alternate pathways and degree titles make it possible to pursue study across a two year period and include intensive language training.
A typical programme of study requires passing three full units (including the core unit, Research Methods in Anthropology) plus submission of a dissertation.

Students choose the equivalent of two full units from available special course options, which may include MA-level courses such as regional ethnography courses; courses in social, medical, media and food anthropology; cultural, media, gender, diaspora and religious studies; and of course language training (list available from the Faculty of Languages and Cultures). For the full and up-to-date list of courses on current offer, please visit the Departmental website or contact the Faculty Office. Additional courses may be available in other departments of the School.

Students who do not already possess competence in the language required for fieldwork will be expected to enrol for language training. Some may wish to enrol for more advanced language training. The specific options will be decided with the programme convenor and should be appropriate to the intended area of the student’s research.

Term One of the core course is entitled ‘Ethnographic Research Methods’ focuses on ethnographic and qualitative methods. It introduces students to key disciplinary research methods involved in writing (and reading) ethnography, including participant observation, interviewing, use of documentary sources, research on oral sources, participatory methods, taking and analysing field notes, writing up fieldwork, and issues of research validity, credibility and ethical considerations.

Term Two of the core course involves work on numerical techniques and statistics in Social Anthropology. This course is run as a workshop with the aim of balancing formal instruction with discussion of problems in data collection and practical handling of quantitative field data. Students work through standard procedures, treating them as models available for analysis in the process of research and considering the nature of the assumptions that have to be made in applying them.

The dissertation (approximately 15,000 words) will take the form of an extended research report that includes the following:

- a review of the relevant theoretical and ethnographic literature
- an outline of the specific questions to be addressed, methods to be employed and the expected contribution of the study to anthropology
MA Anthropological Research Methods and Nepali

Programme Convenor
Professor Michael J Hutt
mh8@soas.ac.uk

This two-year programme is for those students who wish to conduct doctoral-level research in Nepal, or in preparation for professional employment in, for example, a government agency or international NGO.

This is the only Master’s-level programme offered anywhere in the world that provides students who intend to proceed to conduct anthropological research (broadly defined) in Nepal with the necessary skills (disciplinary, linguistic, methodological).

This will give the student the opportunity to:

- Read, write, speak and understand Nepali to a level suitable for field research in Nepal
- Give a grounding in the scholarly literature on Nepali history, society and culture
- Gain expertise in anthropological theory and practice that will provide a basis for research in a Nepali context
MA Anthropological Research Methods and Intensive Language

In the two-year language pathway, students take two intensive language units and Research Methods in Anthropology (1 unit) in their first year. During the summer, they will participate in a summer school abroad. Upon their return, they will take one intensive language unit in their second year and two optional anthropology units.

Students can choose to study any African or Asian language that is normally available to students taking one of the taught masters programs.

The two-year Intensive Language pathway is directed at students who want to engage with a country in a professional as well as academic way, as the intensive language course will enable them to reach a near proficient knowledge of the language.
The Department has long produced internationally-recognized research relating to the history of Africa and Asia, and in the recent Research Excellence Framework a significant proportion of our work was judged to be 3* or 4* standard.

The SOAS History Department is one of the world’s major centres offering supervision for research degrees in African and Asian history. It attracts students and scholarly visitors from all parts of the world. The top ratings given to the Department in the official national research assessments of 1996, 2001 and 2008 took into account the excellence of its research training, as well as the staff publication record. The Department provides opportunities for well-qualified applicants to join large groups of students and staff working in or around their specialist fields of history. With 19 full-time staff, around 10–15 doctoral candidates a year joining the Department, a diverse corps of research associates and distinguished visiting scholars it provides a rich research environment. The unique combination of individual supervision, taught courses and seminars ensures that the large majority of doctoral candidates complete their degrees within four years.

During their first or MPhil year, doctoral candidates attend a weekly seminar which provides training for research methods specifically in the history of Africa and Asia. In addition, they attend a weekly regional history seminar – on Africa, South Asia, the Near and Middle East and East Asia/South East Asia – and often special workshops on themes related to their research. These seminar series are supplemented by at least one generic skills course during the first term. This course can be chosen from the wide range of generic skills training courses that are offered by SOAS, the Bloomsbury Postgraduate Skills Network, or other London institutions such as the Institute of Historical Research. Doctoral researchers are strongly encouraged to take further courses during the course of the programme. During their third year, doctoral researchers attend the Writing-Up Seminar convened by a member of staff, at which they will present and discuss draft chapters.

While some theses rely mainly on materials in English and other European languages, a major advantage of taking a research degree in History at SOAS is that we provide instruction in many African and Asian languages. Applicants requiring language instruction must state this when applying, and discuss arrangements with prospective supervisors soon after receiving an offer. Doctoral researchers in History whose work extends into other disciplines are encouraged to seek advice from staff in other Departments, such as Anthropology and Sociology and the Study of Religions.

In addition to the resources of the SOAS Library, historians benefit from easy access to the British Library (including the India Office and Oriental Collections), the British Library Newspaper Archive at Colindale, the National Archives at Kew, and many central London archives and libraries. As with any other discipline, London offers an enormous range of history-related events, including lectures, workshops, seminars, conferences and exhibitions. Close links are maintained with the nearby Institute of Historical Research and the Institute of Commonwealth

For more information go to www.soas.ac.uk
Informing public understanding

Professor Gilbert Achcar’s book The Arabs and the Holocaust: The Arab-Israeli War of Narratives has produced considerable impact outside of academia, greatly informing public understanding and debate around the Arab-Israeli conflict, particularly concerning Holocaust denial in the Arab world and the charge that Israel uses the tragedy to its own advantage yet ignores the on-going displacement of Palestinians.

Employing multiple written and oral sources, Achcar traces Arab reactions to Nazism and anti-Semitism from 1933-1947, before shifting his study to more recent years, particularly the post-9/11 context. Though denouncing the anti-Semitism espoused by certain leaders and organisations, Achcar is critical of attempts to portray leading figures in the Arab world as having played an integral role in the Nazi campaign against European Jews. He highlights the differences between Western and Arab anti-Semitism, the latter being a more recent phenomenon, and places Arab responses to the Holocaust in political and historical context. Achcar’s book has sold over 10,000 copies in five languages.
The MA in Historical Research Methods offers research skills to the level prescribed by the various funding councils. It is intended for students with a good first degree in History or who possess a taught Master’s degree in History. Most students would be expected to progress to a research degree in History at the end of the course, but it is also possible to take it as a stand-alone Master’s programme.

Students are required to complete a programme of research training and submit a 10,000-word dissertation on an approved topic. Candidates must also submit a number of research-related assignments which, taken together with the dissertation, are equivalent to approximately 30,000 words. For students progressing to a PhD, the MA dissertation will normally take the form of a research proposal.

A selection of courses is listed here. For the full up-to-date list of courses on offer in 2016/17, please visit the relevant departmental website or contact the Faculty Office. Some courses may be taught in other Departments of the School.

### Course structure

- Research Methods in History with Special Reference to Asia and Africa
- Sources and Research Design in Historical Research (core course, one-to-one supervision)
- either: language; training from the Faculty of Languages and Cultures for students who do not have the appropriate language skills
- or: one course listed for the MA History to be selected with advice from the dissertation supervisor

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**Duration**

One calendar year (full-time)
Two or three years (part-time, daytime only)

**Start of programme**

September intake only

**Entry requirements**

Minimum upper second-class honours degree (or equivalent); relevant background in the region of specialism

**Programme Convenor**

Dr Eleanor Newbigin
en2@soas.ac.uk

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For more information go to www.soas.ac.uk
Methodology
• Research Methods in History with Special Reference to Asia and Africa

Africa
• Colonial Conquest and Social Change in Southern Africa (half unit)
• Warfare and the Military in African History

Near and Middle East
• Origins and Development of Islam in the Middle East: Problems and Perspectives
• The End of Empire in the Middle East and the Balkans
• Encountering the Other: the Middle East during the Crusading Period
• Iran and the Persianate World since 1400

East Asia
• Topics in the History of Traditional Korea
• Nationhood and Competing Identities in Modern China
• Japanese Modernity I
• Japanese Modernity II

South Asia
• Islam in South Asia
• Gender, Law and the Family in the History of Modern South Asia (half unit)
• Colonialism and Nationalism in South Asia

South East Asia
• Society and Politics in Late Colonial South East Asia
• Histories of Ethnicity and Conflict in South East Asia II: Non-national Perspectives (half unit)

An Approved Asian, African or Middle Eastern Language (Minor Only)
See Departments of the Faculty of Languages and Cultures for details
www.soas.ac.uk/languagecultures.
Academic staff

Dr Teresa Bernheimer BA (London) MPhil DPhil (Oxon)
Islamic History to 1200; social history of elites in early Islam, especially 'Alid family; documentary and material evidence from Late Antiquity to early Islam; origins and development of Shi’ism; early Islamic Iran

Dr Michael Charney BA (Michigan-Flint) MA (Michigan and Ohio) PhD (Michigan)
The history of Buddhist societies in South and Southeast Asia and of culture, technology, and warfare in colonial Africa and Asia

Professor William Gervase Clarence-Smith MA (Cantab) DIPPOL (Paris) PhD (London)
History of Islam, sexuality, diasporas, slavery, stimulants, rubber, livestock and textiles, with special reference to Maritime South East Asia

Dr Wayne Dooling BA MA (Cape Town) PhD (Cantab)
Early colonial South African history; slavery and emancipation in the Cape Colony

Dr Roy Fischel BA (Jerusalem) MA PhD (Chicago)
History of precolonial South Asia, in particular Muslim polities and societies; the Deccan, 1300-1700; South Asia and the early modern Muslim world

Dr Nelida Fuccaro MA (Venice) PhD (Durham)
Modern Middle Eastern history, especially Iraq, Persian Gulf and Syria; urban history; history of violence; social and cultural history of oil; colonialism, ethnicity and nationalism; Kurdish history

Dr Christopher Gerteis BA (Santa Cruz) MA PhD (Iowa)
Modern and Contemporary Japanese history. Social and cultural history of the 20th century, especially the intersection of consumer capitalism and historical memory

Dr Andrea Janku MA PhD (Heidelberg)
China, social and cultural history; the early press and the history of communication; environmental history

Dr Ceyda Karmursel PhD (University of Pennsylvania)
Modern Middle East, Ottoman Empire, slavery and emancipation, legal history, gender, race, citizenship, material culture.

Dr Lars Laaman BA (Freiburg) PhD (London)
Popular religions in early modern China (16th-20th cc); Christianity in China (18th-20th cc); opium and other narcotics (18th-20th cc); Manchu history (16th-20th cc)

Dr Marie Legendre PhD (Leiden/Paris)
Early and Medieval Islamic history, Arabic papyrology, State formation, Administration and taxation, Christians and Jews under Islamic rule, Multilingualism

Dr Angus Lockyer BA (Cantab) MA (Washington) PhD (Stanford)
Modernization and modernity in Japan; world’s fairs, international and industrial exhibitions; history of golf

Dr Derek Mancini-Lander BA (Kenyon College), MA (U of Toronto), PhD (U of Michigan)
Cultural and social history of the late medieval and early modern Persianate world; Iran; urban and local history; space, memory, and narrative in Persian historiography; shrine-centered religiosity; Safavid Empire

Dr Eleanor Newbigin BA MPhil PhD (Cantab)
Modern South Asia, particularly the transition to independence; gender, family and law in colonial and post-colonial India

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Dr John Parker BA PhD (London)
Early modern and modern West African history, especially social and political history of Ghana

Professor Richard Reid BA (Stirling) PhD (London)
Warfare and cultures of violence and militarism in African history; nationalism and historical consciousness in eastern Africa and the Horn.

Dr Marie Rodet MA (Rennes) PhD (Vienna)
Modern West Africa, Gender History, History of Slavery and Emancipation, Migration, Legal History

Dr Mandy Sadan MA (Oxon) PhD (London)
Ethnicity and conflict in mainland South East Asia; cultural production, non-national histories of Eastern Himalayas and South East Asian Massif and the South, South East and East Asian borderworlds of Burma

Dr Shabnum Tejani BA (Oberlin) MA MPhil PhD (Columbia)
Nineteenth and twentieth century social and intellectual history, particularly of the Bombay Presidency; communalism and nationalism in India; debates around secularism and religious intolerance
In REF 2014, more than 80% of the research of the Department of the History of Art and Archaeology was considered internationally excellent or world leading, the third highest proportion of any institution submitting to subpanel 34. The number of doctoral researcher completions per category A staff member (FTE) in the 7 comparator institutions for the Department was 0.47 per year; the Department was well above this average at 0.65. Between 2008-13 the number of PhD theses completed was 42. In REF2014, the Department’s impact was rated at 80% 3* and 4* (20% 4*).

Research topics may range from historical and contextual studies of the traditions, forms and artists of the past to contemporary and popular visual arts and the contribution of Asian and African art studies to the development of a comparative philosophy of art and archaeology. The opportunities for original and innovative research are, therefore, extremely wide-ranging. This is, moreover, an area in which cooperation with scholars in Asia and Africa is possible to mutual advantage. All staff are simultaneously attached as art historians or archaeologists to this Department and as regional specialists to their appropriate Regional Centre within the School. The Department web pages provide further details of staff members’ areas of research interest, affiliations and publications, and of current doctoral researchers.

Together with the Centre for Media Studies and the Department of Music, the Department of History of Art and Archaeology makes up SOAS’s new School of Arts.

The lecturers of the Department offer supervision in most aspects of the visual arts, architecture, material culture and archaeology of Asia, Africa and the Middle East, leading to the MPhil or PhD. Applicants are expected to be sufficiently familiar with the subject and to have their own ideas about the research they wish to do. The time limit on research degrees (three to four years for the PhD full time) means that proposals should be well developed before they are submitted. To that end, applicants are encouraged to approach a suitable potential supervisor, or else the Research Tutor who may make suggestions, in order to develop a viable proposal before applying. In addition to identifying a topic, applicants should aim to demonstrate a familiarity with the relevant literature and research methodologies, and to begin to formulate research questions. Applicants without appropriate competence in the language(s) relevant to their research will normally be required to acquire this as a condition of their registration. It is expected that candidates will already have completed postgraduate taught courses in the form of a taught Master’s degree (an MA, MSc or LLM, for example) and obtained good results before starting a PhD programme.
At the end of the first year, doctoral candidates present their work in a public seminar and submit a dossier of 20,000 words, usually containing a ‘core chapter’ and a plan of fieldwork in the second year; these outputs are assessed by the supervisory committee and other staff members. Candidates who are not upgraded but continue on with an MPhil degree then have one further year to complete the thesis.

Candidates upgraded to PhD degree at the end of the first year are given two further years of work: the second year is usually devoted to the collection of data in the field; the third year to producing a full draft of the thesis. During this time doctoral researchers may anticipate working part-time as Graduate Teaching Assistants for undergraduate courses in the Department. At the end of the third year, another public seminar presentation is given and a complete draft must be submitted to the committee, which may then recommend that a fourth, ‘writing-up’ year is provided, during which the thesis is prepared for the final oral examination or viva.

Some staff members prefer their doctoral researchers to have trained under them at MA level in the Department, even where they have an appropriate degree from elsewhere.

Research candidates are admitted to the Department registered for the MPhil degree and work towards an upgrade examination at the end of the first year. They receive supervision from the three staff members on their committee; they take a half unit course on research skills in the History of Art and Archaeology provided by the Department; and also participate, with other doctoral researchers from across the University of London, in the Research Skills Intercollegiate Network (ReSkIN). These courses are designed to encourage participants to make a critical assessment of their individual research context (secondary literature, exhibitions, disciplinary issues etc.), to refine their research questions, and to identify suitable methodologies from within the disciplines of art history and/or archaeology or elsewhere. Although they will usually be working on the art or archaeology of a region within Asia or Africa, doctoral researchers are expected to develop their knowledge and skills in the context of the ‘expanded field’, to begin learning about the ethics, peer-review and publication of research.
Recent PhD Theses

Rosalia Genovese – The Plain of Jars of Laos – Beyond Madeleine Colani

Nikolaos Vryzidis – A study on Ottoman Christian aesthetic: Greek-Orthodox vestments & ecclesiastical fabrics, 16th to 18th centuries

Hee Na Youn – Objects of Popular Devotion: Longquan Ceramic Religious Figures during the Song-Yuan-Ming Period

Emma Martin – Charles Bell, a collector in Tibet

Tanja Tolar – Islamic enamelled glass and its connections with Byzantium and Venice

Farouk Yahya – Magic and Divination: the Malay Tradition in Illustrated Manuscripts

Reviving appreciation of forgotten cultural art forms

Professor Andrew Gerstle’s research and conceptualisation of the first exhibition of Osaka Kabuki prints since 1975 has proved a catalyst in radically reinvigorating interest in Osaka visual culture of the late 18th and 19th centuries, which had hitherto been eclipsed by that of Tokyo.

Kabuki is an actor-centred drama that did not publish authorized texts of plays like its sister art Bunraku Puppet Theatre. Gerstle realised that in order to research Osaka Kabuki he needed to focus not only on play texts and other literary sources, but also on the rich visual record, and so began exploring this area by surveying public and private collections of Osaka actor prints in Europe and by working with Japanese scholars. The result of this collaboration was a scholarly catalogue published in separate English and Japanese editions, which has been displayed on exhibition at the British Museum and then at the Osaka Museum of History and the Waseda University Theatre Museum in Tokyo.
Academic staff

Dr Crispin Branfoot  BA (Manchester) MA PhD (London)
Hindu, Buddhist and Jain architecture, sculpture and painting; pilgrimage and sacred geography, archaeology and material religion; South India

Professor Anna Contadini  Laurea (Venice) PhD (London)
Arab and early Persian painting and the arts of the Islamic book in general, including the production of manuscripts of the Holy Qur’an; art and material culture of the Islamic world; Fatimid art and architecture; the arts of Islamic Spain; artistic contacts between the Islamic world and Europe

Dr Heather Elgood  MBE BA (Hons) MA PhD
Persian, Jain, Sultanate and Mughal manuscript painting and the ritual arts of Hinduism

Dr Charles Gore  MA PhD (London)
Visual cultures and theoretical framings of West Africa, the Caribbean and their diasporas in the United Kingdom, in particular: arts of indigenous religions, including masquerade performance and the arts of the Benin kingdom; and histories of West African photography, modern and contemporary art.

Dr Charlotte Horlyck  BA MA PhD (London)
Art and/or archaeology of Korea; funerary customs; architecture spatiality in pre-modern Korea; theories in the study of visual and material culture

Dr Christian Lukzanits  MA PhD (Vienna)
Art and iconography of Tibetan art; art and architecture of Buddhism; Gandaran art

Dr Shane McCausland  MA (Cantab) MA PhD (Princeton)
Visual cultures of dynastic, modern and contemporary China; history of calligraphy and painting in China; art canons, collecting and connoisseurship; workshop practice; intercultural issues

Dr Lukas Nickel  BA DiplSin (Berlin) Drdes (Heidelberg)
Archaeology in China; early Buddhist art; traditional architecture of China and Japan

Dr Simon O’Meara  MA PhD (Leeds)
History and planning of the city and sanctuary of Mecca, urban planning in the Islamic world. Art and text in Islam

Dr Stacey Pierson  BA (Loyola) MA (London) PGDip (Ealing) DPhil (Sussex)
History and production of Chinese ceramics; history and theory of collecting; history of art history

Professor Scott Redford  AB (Princeton) AM (Columbia) AM PhD (Harvard)
Medieval Islamic history, archaeology and art history, Crusader archaeology, Crusades and the Latin East, medieval Islamic and Turco-Iranian world

Professor Ashley Thompson  AM (Harvard) PhD (Paris 8)
Southeast Asian arts, aesthetics, literatures and cultural histories; sexual difference; deconstruction, memory and textuality; Cambodian art; Angkor Wat

Professor Timon Screech  MA (Oxon) AM PhD (Harvard)
History of Japanese art; Edo painting; contacts between Japan and Europe in the early-modern period; history of science in Japan; the theory of art history

Dr Tania C Tribe  MA MD (Rio) PhD (Essex)
Painting in Africa and the Americas; theory of art with special reference to North-eastern Africa

Dr Louise Tythacott  MA PhD (Manchester)
Museology and history of collections; Chinese art in Europe; booty and repatriation
The Centre for Media Studies provides a major initiative in the study of non-Western media, communications and digital culture. Based within the School of the Arts, the Centre is unique for its focus on contemporary and historical trends in media, digital communications and the cultural industries in the non-Western world – especially Asia, the Middle East and Africa – and the media and cultural production of their diasporas. At the centre, we recognise that we live in a multi-platform and multi-centred media world in which the global balance is changing rapidly, and that non-Western cultural producers have increasingly complex relationships with Europe and North America. Thus we encourage a developed critique both of Eurocentrism and of simplistic approaches to de-Westernization.

Staff focus inter alia on the spectrum of media industries and forms, from smart phone screens to buildings as screens and from broadcasting and the press to the newest digital technologies, always situating these within their wider historical, political, economic, socio-cultural and technological contexts. We are interested in the convergence and digitalisation of communications which are bringing the global cultural industries closer together and the ways in which diverse actors engage in and with these industries and what these actions mean for contemporary social, cultural and political lives.

Our teaching and research preparation places a strong emphasis on the acquisition of critical theoretical and methodological skills and in-depth regional, linguistic and cultural knowledge of media, communications, cultural and image industries, forms and practices. Our first year research training programme provides a thorough grounding in theory, methods, regional, cultural, linguistic and any special disciplinary expertise that may be required for your research. The SOA and the ADD provide yet further research training opportunities.

The PhD in Media Studies is a research degree that involves undertaking original work on some aspect of contemporary theoretical and global issues in media and communication. Our approach to media and cultural studies is eclectic and draws upon a range of theoretical orientations that include political economy, critical theory, post-structuralism, post-colonial and subaltern studies, and digital/internet studies. The Centre welcomes inter-disciplinarity and transcultural and transregional approaches, drawing upon expertise right across the School. So the PhD Programme is equally suited to researchers who wish to engage in detailed study of media, digital and cultural industries in Asia, Africa or the Middle East and to those who wish to combine media research with other disciplines, ranging from the study of language and culture through the humanities to the social sciences.
We consider research students to be one of our main research strengths and advise them to develop a portfolio of projects which will be relevant to their future careers. All students have an opportunity to participate in a London-wide colloquium in the field. In 2015, we held a doctoral school together with the University of Padua and Goldsmiths. There is opportunity for student-driven activities. For example, the student-led ‘Sacredmediacow Collective’ organized a conference on media in India and produced an edited book, Indian Mass Media and the Politics of Change, which was published by Routledge. Students are encouraged to give papers at national and international conferences such as IAMCR and to publish in academic journals. Many of our alumni now occupy academic posts in universities around the world while others have gone on to make feature films, win photography prizes and work in the media.

**Recent PhD Theses**

**Joshua McNamara** – Small scale audiovisual production and its relationship with the development and aid sector in Nairobi: an approach toward Kenya’s media environment, from the perspective of practice-based research

**Christina Singer** – “Born Free”? Youth and Screen Media in Post-Apartheid South Africa (1994-2012)

**Thomas Allen** – Towards a Molecular Method: Subjectivity, Media, Health

**Lawrence Carter** – Going Global: Studio Ghibli, Anime and the Popularisation of a Global Genre

**Mahdi Khoei** – Iranian everyday life as represented on television

**Farida Batool Syeda** – New Media, Masculinity and Mujra Dance in Pakistan


**Matti Pohjonen** – In Medias Res: the Problem of Cultural Translation of International News in Mumbai, India

**Gareth Bentley** – Journalistic Agency and the Subjective Turn in British Foreign Correspondent Discourse.

**Paolo D’Urbano** – The Muslim Brotherhood and New Media in Egypt

**Ghazal Seif** – Counter-authoritarian discourses in pre-revolutionary Egypt
Academic Staff

**Dr Somnath Batabyal MA (London) PhD (London)**
outreast Asia, with a focus on India; transnational news spheres with a special focus on India; development discourses in India and its articulation in mainstream and alternate news forums; environmental politics.

**Dr Jaeho Kang MA (Korea) PhD (Cantab)**
East Asia; Korea, China and Japan; critical theory; media theory; East Asian cultural studies; political communication; media and urban spaces in East Asian cities; new media and democracy; media spectacle and global mega-events.

**Dr Dina Matar MSc PhD (London)**
Middle East, especially the Arab world; international political communication; cultural politics; cultural studies; memory studies and oral history; conflict and communication; Islamist movements; social movements and media; diasporas; ethnic minorities; migration; transnational movements and communications.

**Dr Elisa Oreglia PhD MIMS**
(University of California Berkeley)
China and Southeast Asia, particularly Myanmar; Information and Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD); Information Society and digital divides; localized information sharing practices and media production; intermediation in digital media use; rural markets and new media.
Associate Members (with department)

**Professor Gilbert Achcar** BA (Lyon); BA, MA (Lebanese University Beirut); PhD (Paris VIII) Development Studies

**Professor Stephen Chan** OBE BA MA (Auckland) MA (London) PhD (Kent) Politics and International Studies

**Dr Lindiwe Dovey** BA (Harvard) PhD (Cantab) Africa

**Dr Sian Hawthorne** BA PhD (London) Study of Religions and Philosophies

**Dr Stephen P Hughes** BA (Bates Coll., Lewiston) MA PhD (Chicago) Anthropology and Sociology

**Dr Griseldis Kirsch** MA PhD (Trier) Japan and Korea

**Dr Kevin Latham** BA (Oxon) PGDip (Zhangshan) MA PhD (London) Anthropology and Sociology

**Dr Nima Mina** BA (Marburg) MMus PhD (Montreal) Near and Middle East

**Dr Dan Plesch** BA (Nottingham) PhD (Keele) International Studies and Diplomacy

**Dr Parvathi Raman** BA PhD (London) Anthropology and Sociology

**Dr Marie Rodet** DIPPOL (Rennes) PhD (Vienna) History

**Dr Sallehuddin bin Abdullah Sani** BA (London) South East Asia

**Dr Subir Sinha** BA (Delhi) MA, PhD (Northwestern) Development Studies

**Professor Charles Tripp** BA (Oxford) MSc PhD (London) Politics and International Studies

**Dr Justin Watkins** BA (Leeds) MA PhD (London) Linguistics

**Professor Lynn Welchman** MA (Cantab) PhD (London) Law

**Dr Cosimo Zene** BA MA PhD (London) Study of Religions
The SOAS Department of Music was highly rated in the Research Excellence Framework 2014, achieving the highest percentage of 4* research among Music departments in England: 59% of our research, across all our geographical areas, was judged to be world-leading, and we were commended for the “very considerable to outstanding impact” that we were able to demonstrate.

The Department of Music at SOAS is an internationally respected centre for research in Music. It is the only Music department in the UK devoted to the study of Asian and African music, and it is the largest centre of ethnomusicology and world music studies in Europe. The aims of the Department reflect the institutional context within SOAS, the leading European centre for the study of Asia, the Middle East and Africa. Within this context the Department articulates the perception that music is a universal means of individual and cultural expression, of which the distinctive forms, constituting the cultural heritage of different regions, interact, in a world that has always been (but is increasingly) changing, pluralistic and inter-connected; and that the study of non-linguistic forms of expression is as important for understanding the contemporary world as other disciplines. The 2014 REF assigned the first place for research publications in Music to the SOAS Department of Music, showing that our research is unique for its excellence and significance as well as for its regional and disciplinary diversity.

Staff of the Department offer regional expertise in all the major music cultures of Asia and Africa, and a wide range of disciplinary specialities within Ethnomusicology, putting us ahead of the competition everywhere in Europe. Staff and students of the Department of Music pursue research on a wide range of subjects, mainly but not exclusively focused on the music of Asia and Africa. Staff have special interests in the music of China and Central Asia (Harris), Central Asia, Siberia, Korea (Howard), Indonesia and Thailand (Gray), South Asia (Widdess), the Jewish and Islamic worlds (Webster-Kogen), West Africa and Cuba (Durán) and South and East Africa (Impey, Webster-Kogen). But research is not limited to these areas: projects have been undertaken, for example, on American jazz, and on Caribbean, Mediterranean and Eastern European music. Whatever its regional origin, music is studied in a multi-disciplinary, cross-cultural perspective. Instrumental and vocal, sacred and secular, art and popular, traditional and modern musical forms are all of equal interest. New strands of research are currently being developed in performance and composition as research, the global creative and cultural industries, and music education and cognition. Staff have research interests in issues that often cross regional boundaries; see the list below, and individual staff web pages (accessible through www.soas.ac.uk/music/staff) for details of their research interests, specialisms and activities. These include anthropological, historical, ethnographic, cultural-studies, music-analytical, media-related, performance, composition, and cognitive approaches, with reference to issues of repertoire, performance,
Research methods employed include fieldwork, interview, archive and internet research, recording and filming, performance, transcription and analysis, and composition.

Extensive training is provided for doctoral researchers in their first year, including a weekly Research Training Seminar; research methods covered include fieldwork, ethnography, recording and editing audio and video, music transcription and analysis etc. As the Department of Music forms part of the School of Arts, some research training sessions are held jointly with the Department of History of Art and Archaeology and the Centre for Media Studies. Training in relevant languages can be provided either on or off campus. For the structure of a research degree in Music, see [www.soas.ac.uk/music/programmes/phd](http://www.soas.ac.uk/music/programmes/phd) (click “Structure”).

Research students additionally benefit from access to other disciplines in SOAS (e.g. languages, anthropology, arts, religion), to the SOAS radio station and recording studio, and because of our location in central London, to an unparalleled variety of performers, performance teachers, performance spaces, concerts and studios. Performance is integral to our graduate programmes and extra-curricular activities, as shown by our pioneering work in performance as research at MMus, PhD and post-doctoral levels, and by the SOAS concert series, World Music Summer School and Bloomsbury Festival.

### Securing a global stage for Malian artists and their music

Research by Lucy Durán has not only raised global awareness of the ‘ngoni’, which, dating from the 12th century or earlier, is the oldest of the West African lutes, but has also brought Malian musicians to world fame.

Her ethnomusicological research has underpinned the studio production of two internationally acclaimed albums, Segu Blue, winner of two BBC Radio 3 Music Awards for Best World Music Album and Best African Artist in 2008, and I Speak Fula, a 2010 Grammy nominee for Best Traditional World Music Album. Both have raised awareness amongst musicians and global audiences of Bamana musical traditions, including the ngoni, until Segu Blue, an instrument hardly known beyond West Africa.
The Department owns a large working collection of musical instruments, and hosts several ensembles (currently including Cuban big band, Middle Eastern, Chinese silk-and-bamboo, Javanese gamelan, Thai classical and Korean samulnori ensembles). The SOAS Library has a large collection of ethnomusicological publications and sound and video recordings, and offers on-line resources including Smithsonian Global Sound and RILM. Researchers also have access to a music research archive with specialized audiovisual and multimedia facilities, including audio analysis and music notation software.

Postgraduate researchers in the Department come from a wide variety of backgrounds in the UK and from overseas. Many are performers of music as well as researchers; applicants are evaluated individually on the basis of their background and academic achievements. Applicants should normally possess a Master’s degree, or equivalent, in Music, Ethnomusicology or other relevant discipline. Applicants who are accomplished performers or teachers, or who work in the music industry, may have alternative qualifications, and are encouraged to apply, although they may be recommended to take a Master’s degree first. Graduates of the programme go on to a diverse range of careers in music and other fields (see the website for information on Graduate Destinations).

Recent PhD Theses

Ruard Absaroka – Hidden Musicians and Public Musicking in Shanghai

Philip Alexander – Jewish music in Berlin

Cassandre Balosso-Bardin – The Mallorcan bagpipes (xeremies)

Flora Henderson – Contemporary composition for shakuhachi and western instruments

Nan Ma – Revenue protection in the mainland Chinese music industry

Violeta Ruano-Posada – Music, resistance and exile in Saharawi culture

Chloe Alaghband-Zadeh – Analysing Thumri

Joe Browning – An ethnography of the global shakuhachi scene

Hyelim Kim – Tradition and Creativity in Korean Taegŭm Flute

Hyunseok Kwon – Cultural Globalization and the Korean Promotion Policy for Music based on Tradition

Manuel Jimenez – Performance in Gamelan Jegog and comparisons with UK gamelan performance

Cloris Lim – Nanyin Activities in Jinjiang Region of Fujian Province, China

Moshe Morad – Music as a ‘Space’ of Identity, Interaction and Escapism, among Gay Men in Special-period Havana

Jutamas Poprasit – The Role of Music in the Thai Funeral Ritual in Contemporary Bangkok
Academic staff

Dr Lucy Durán BMus MMus PhD (London)
Music in the Mande world; women singers of Mali; gender and music in West Africa; popular musics of Atlantic Africa; childhood music learning in oral traditions; Cuban popular music; the world music industry and the media; music production

Dr Nicholas Gray MA MPhil (Cantab) PhD (London)
Music of South East Asia; Indonesia; Bali, especially music for the Balinese shadowplay; composition; improvisation; analysis; music and religion

Dr Rachel Harris BA (Oxon) MMus PhD (London)
Ethnomusicology; musics of China and Central Asia, especially Uyghur; recorded music; music and ritual, music, identity and politics

Professor Keith D Howard BA (CNAA) MA (Durham) PhD (Belf) PGCE LTCL FRSA
Ethnomusicology; music of East Asia, especially Korea; Korean culture and society; composition; music education; shamanism; music in religion.

Dr Angela Impey BMus (Cape Town), BA Hons (KwaZulu Natal), MA PhD (Indiana)
Music of southern Africa and the African Horn (Sudan); advocacy ethnomusicology; sound/music, memory and place; forced migration, cultural mapping and borderland identities; human rights and development.

Dr Caspar Melville PhD (London)
Global creative and cultural industries, popular music, music of the Black Atlantic, Afro-diasporic music scenes and London music scenes.

Dr Ilana Webster-Kogen BA (Columbia); MMus, MA, PhD (London)
Ethiopian music; Music in Israel/Palestine; Biblical cantillation; migration and nationalism; music and gender.

Professor Richard Widdess MA MusB PhD (Cantab) MA (London) FBA
Historical, analytical and cognitive approaches to music; music of South Asia, especially vocal music of North India and Newar music of Nepal; music and religion in South Asia.

Emeritus Professor Owen Wright BA (Leicester) BA PhD (London)
Music of the Islamic Middle East; historical musicology.
The Department of the Study of Religions at SOAS University of London has been ranked highly in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework, with nearly 80% of work submitted to the panel graded 4* (world-leading) or 3* (internationally excellent). The Department’s research publications were especially highly-regarded, placing the Department 2nd nationally in terms of the proportion of work graded as internationally excellent or higher.

The Department has unrivalled expertise in the religions of Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Our interest in these religions comprises their respective history, literature, political and cultural contexts, and rituals and practices. Our scope is not limited to their presence in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East but extends to all areas of the world where they are now represented.

Our research is interdisciplinary. We offer:

- a wider range of religious traditions studied in more depth than in any other programme in the field, anywhere in the world
- a multidisciplinary methodological approach that is diverse and intellectually stimulating, ensuring comprehensive and thorough learning
- a variety of perspectives, including historical, philological, anthropological, sociological, philosophical, and gender-studies approaches to the study of particular religious traditions
- a unique opportunity to access cutting-edge academic expertise and unrivalled resources on Asian, African, and Middle Eastern religions as part of a spirited, cosmopolitan student community and within the vibrant religious and cultural scene of London

The study of religions is invariably a multidisciplinary undertaking and often involves the use of special linguistic and/or interdisciplinary skills. This is why our students are able to also register for courses in the School’s regional departments, which specialize in the languages and literatures of various parts of Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. As a Department we have strong links with other departments such as History, History of Art and Archaeology, Anthropology and Sociology, Near Middle Eastern Studies, and South East Asian Studies.

Our MPhil/PhD enrolment ranks among the strongest in the country, with a research community close to 50.

Our courses and staff maintain a balance between expertise in a particular religious tradition (Jainism, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, African and Near Middle Eastern Christianity, Zoroastrianism, etc.) and the fields of Comparative Religion and the theories and methods of Religious Studies. Most of our research students are working on a particular religious tradition but we welcome applications from those wishing to work in the comparative and theory of religions fields.
In addition to providing research supervision, the Department runs a research training programme to equip year one MPhil/PhD researchers with the necessary research skills. There is also a weekly Postgraduate Seminar at which researchers meet to discuss work-in-progress or present draft chapters of their theses. Students are also strongly encouraged to attend the departmental Research Seminar, events organized by the various Centres, and lectures and conferences relating to their field of specialization.

The Department hosts a number of Research Centres which run regular seminars and workshops and host visiting speakers; doctoral researchers are welcome to be involved in their activities. The progress of each postgraduate researcher is supported by a supervisory committee, made up of their supervisor and two other members of staff familiar with their area of research.

Raising awareness of the persecution of religious minorities

The research of Dr Erica Hunter demonstrates the potentially far-reaching impact of individual scholarly endeavour. Dr Hunter’s work on religious minorities in the Middle East, in particular the Mandaeans, has influenced decision making with regard to members of that community seeking asylum in the UK. She has written expert witness reports on current conditions of Christians and Mandaeans in Iraq, Iran and Egypt; all such applications for asylum in the United Kingdom have been successful.

Hunter’s fieldwork in Iraq (1989–2002), where she had extensive contact with the Mandaeans, together with her on-going communication with the largely diaspora community has enabled her to draw attention to and inform the Home Office about the current violent conditions. In recognition of her expertise and contribution, the Mandaean community invited Dr Hunter in 2012 to be President of Mandaeans Crisis International, a group that lobbies internationally on behalf of the Mandaeans, with particular emphasis on human rights.
Recent PhD Theses

David Azzopardi – Religious Belief and Practice Among Sri Lankan Buddhists in the UK

Phibul Choompolpaisal – Reassessing Modern Thai Political Buddhism: a Critical Study of Sociological Literature from Weber to Keyes

Lewis Doney – The Historical Depictions of King Khri srong lde btsan in Eighth to Twelfth-century Tibet

David E. Cohen – Don Isaac Abrabanel’s Biblical Exegesis

Richard Todd Godwin – Persian Christians at the Chinese Court: The Xi’an Stele and the Church of the East


Leon Goldman – Rashn Yasht. The Avestan Hymn to ‘Justice’

Satomi Horiuchi – Contemporary Japanese Christianity: Ancestors, Rites and Graves


Benedetta Lomi – Batô Kannon/Matou Guanyin: Cult, Images and Rituals of the Horse-headed One

Ligeia Lugli – The Conception of Language in Indian Mahāyāna Buddhism, with Special Reference to the Lankāvatārasūtra

Masaaki Okada – Salvation by Beauty and Nature: Okada Mokichi’s Practices

Fumi Ouchi – The Vocal Arts in Medieval Japan and Tendai Hongaku Thought

Jan Westerhoff – Causation in Early Madhyamaka Writings

Academic staff

Dr Lucia Dolce Laurea MA (Venice) PhD (Leiden) Japanese religious history, especially the medieval period; East Asian Buddhism, including Tiantai/ Tendai and Tantric Buddhism; Shinto-Buddhist associations; millenarian writings and prophecy; ritual and ritual studies; religious art and iconography.

Dr Peter Flügel MA DPhil (Mainz) Jaina Studies; South Asian history & culture; anthropology & sociology of religion; comparative philosophy

Dr Jorg Haustein MA PhD (Heidelberg): Religion and Christianity; history of Ethiopia; Islam in Tanzania (German East Africa, colonial); Pentecostal / charismatic movements, theoretical and methodological problems of the study of religion

Dr Sian Hawthorne PhD (London) Critical theory; narrativity and myth; religion and gender; intellectual history in the study of religions; postsecularism; religion and politics.

Professor Catherine Hezser Dr Theol (Heidelberg) PhD (New York) Habil (Berlin) Judaism in Hellenistic and Roman times; rabbinic literature; social history of Jews in late antiquity; American Jewish history and literature; modern Jewish literature and identity; Judaism and gender.

Professor Almut Hintze BA (Heidelberg) MPhil (Oxon) DPhil (Erlangen) DHabil (Berlin) Member of the British Academy Zoroastrian religious beliefs and practice; Avestan, Pahlavi and Indo-Iranian philology.
Dr Erica Hunter BA MA DPhil PhD (Melbourne)
Eastern Christianity: the Chalcedonian an non-Chalcedonian churches of the Middle East, with particular reference to Iraq.

Dr Ulrich Pagel BA PhD (London)
Tibetan language and literature; Buddhism in Central Asia; Vinaya studies.

Dr Antonello Palumbo Laurea PhD (Naples)
Ideological history of pre-modern China; Taoism; Buddhism; Manichaeanism; Chinese relations with Central Asia; religious exchange in pre-modern Eurasia; Oriental religions in modern European culture.

Dr Theodore Proferes BA (New York)
MA PhD (Harvard)
Vedic language and religion; Indian philosophy.

Dr Sarah Stewart BA (ANU)
PGCE MA PhD (London)
Zoroastrianism, with particular reference to the modern period in Iran and India; oral texts and testimony; Muslim communities in Britain.

Dr Vincent Tournier MA (Strasbourg) PhD (Paris)
The development of Indian Buddhist doctrines and practices

Dr Cosimo Zene BA MA PhD (London)
Anthropology of religion; theory in the study of religions; continental philosophy; Gramscian and religion; intercultural and inter-religious dialogue; minorities (Dalits and Subalterns); non-Western Christianities; South-Asia (India, Bangladesh), Sardinia.
The Department of the Languages and Cultures of Africa is a vibrant place of research and learning. What makes the Department unique in the UK is the close interaction between African language study and work on African literatures, cultures, film and screen industries, and postcolonial studies, all of which reflect the general orientation of SOAS. A number of African languages – Amharic, Hausa, Swahili, Somali, Yoruba and Zulu – are regularly taught in the Department, but staff and postgraduate research covers a much wider range of languages.

Across the Department there is prominent interest in African literature in all its manifestations – whether oral or written, and whether in African languages or languages such as English and French. Poetry, song, dance, drama and instrumental accompaniment are pivotal and frequently interlinked; the dynamic relevance of some or all of these is evident in contemporary art forms such as film and other visual media, which also constitute an important part of the Department’s research and teaching expertise. The fact that artistic forms in Africa are often imbued with political, philosophical and/or religious significance means that research and teaching in the Department is profoundly interdisciplinary.

Staff are engaged in their own research and publish extensively, and also collectively edit the Journal of African Cultural Studies, which publishes ground-breaking and world-class research. Current staff research areas include orality and broadcast cultures in Africa; African language metrics and traditional poetry; African language dictionaries and reference grammars; Afrophone philosophy; contemporary African literature in English; travel writing and diaspora studies; and African film, video and film festivals. Teaching and research go hand in hand, and with around 40 per cent of our students registered for postgraduate degrees, we encourage close links between staff and doctoral research. Supervised work reflects staff interests and expertise, ranging from linguistic description to sociolinguistic issues in today’s Africa; from traditional literature in African languages to contemporary African writing in English; from text-based studies of traditional philosophy and religion to African aspects of worldwide religions; and from the history of African cinema to the rise of contemporary video film industries across the continent.

Staff are also engaged in organizing symposia, conferences, film festivals and other events that help to create a dynamic and active research culture.
Research

The MPhil/PhD programme provides supervision within the broad general area of African language and cultural studies. Research topics include the study of a language (from a descriptive, comparative, philological or textual point of view), literature, and film and screen media. Theses may be supervised entirely in the Department but joint supervision with colleagues from other Departments is possible and allows candidates to research an even wider range of topics. MPhil/PhD candidates admitted to the Department receive research training in the Faculty-wide first year research training seminar and are also encouraged to participate in training offered by the Centre for Cultural, Literary and Postcolonial Studies (CCLPS).
The Department covers one of the oldest yet most dynamic and important regions of the world. Demand for specialists with advanced proficiency in the languages of this region has significantly increased in recent years, and the choice of languages available in the Department is unmatched in Europe. Through teaching and research, our language-based study of the cultures of China and Inner Asia allows you to gain specialist knowledge in a variety of subjects including classical philology and philosophy, traditional and modern Chinese literature, drama and performance, cultural studies, film studies, translation theory, and linguistics.

Our alumni are found in academic and government posts, journalism and other media, museums, art galleries, aid agencies, libraries, charities, medicine, and large and small businesses of many kinds all over the world.

Research
The Department is able to supervise MPhil and PhD research in a wide range of cultural and linguistic subjects. Prospective research students should not feel constrained to limit their choice of topics to those research areas indicated against the names of current staff members. Research undertaken at MPhil and PhD level is based on literary, documentary and archive materials in the languages of the area and/or on fieldwork conducted in those languages.

All new MPhil/PhD students are provided with a supervisory committee of three members, comprising a main or primary supervisor, and a second and third supervisor. If necessary, arrangements can be made for shared supervision with teachers from other departments or institutions within SOAS or the University of London.

MPhil/PhD students admitted to the Department receive research training in the Faculty-wide first year research training seminar and are also encouraged to participate in specific training offered by the Faculty Centre for Cultural, Literary and Postcolonial Studies (CCLPS).
Academic staff

**Dr Cosima Bruno** BA (Venice) PhD (London)
Contemporary Chinese poetry; translation studies; Sinophone literature

**Dr Rossella Ferrari** BA (Venice) MA PhD (London)
Chinese-language theatres; Chinese-language cinemas; intercultural performance; theories and practices of the avant-garde

**Professor Bernhard Fuehrer** BA (National Taiwan) PhD (Vienna)
Classical Chinese philology, rhetoric, philosophy and literature; the history of Sinology in Europe; reception of the canon with specific reference to the Analects

**Dr Nathan W Hill** AB, AM, PhD (Harvard)
Tibetan language from Old Tibetan to Modern Standard Tibetan; Tibetan historical and biographical literature; historical, descriptive and corpus linguistics, in particular with reference to Tibetan or other Tibeto-Burman/Sino-Tibetan languages; Chinese minorities; Mongolian

**Dr Xiaoning Lu** BA (Nanjing) MA (Fudan)
Modern Chinese literature and culture, Chineselanguage cinemas, film history and criticism, critical and cultural theory

**Dr Tian Yuan Tan** BA MA (National University of Singapore) PhD (Harvard)
Pre-modern Chinese literature, with emphasis on drama, fiction, and poetry in the later dynasties; Chinese literary history and historiography; court theatre and performance; cross-cultural interactions between China and other countries

Recent PhD Theses

**Eddie Bertozzi** – One Step Forward into Reality: Transvergent Reconfigurations of the Jishizhuyi Style in Contemporary Chinese Cinema

**Paul Graham Bevan** – Manhua Artists in Shanghai 1926-1938: From Art-for-art’s Sake to Wartime Propaganda

**Hon Man Chan** – Yazheng and Dadu Poets in Mid-Yuan China: A Reappraisal of the Poetry of Yu Ji (1272-1348)

**Jungeun Jo** – Music in the Lüshi chunqiu

**Katherine Foster** – Child of Sorrow: Children and Childhood in Late-Twentieth-Century Chinese Fiction.

**Shuk Man Leung** – The Discursive Formation of the Utopian Imagination in New Fiction 1902-1911

**Mary Mazzilli** – Gao Xingjian vs. Martin Crimp in between Modernism and Postmodernism

**Christopher Rosenmeier** – Shanghai Avant-garde: The Fiction of Shi Zhecun, Mu Shiying, Xu Xu and Wumingshi

**Zinan Yan** – The Poetry of the Manchu Prince Yunxi (1711-1758)
The CCLPS has been successful in its €2.5 million European Research Grant for a project on “Multilingual locals and significant geographies: a new approach to world literature” which is led by Professor Francesca Orsini in collaboration with Dr Karima Laachir and Dr Sara Marzagora. The aim of the project is to propose a “ground-up”, multilingual approach to world literature in lieu of the current approaches based on world-system theory and on global circulation that privilege English (and French). One of the aims of the project is also to start “thinking together” (Laachir) Anglophone, francophone and Hindi/Urdu, Arabic, Berber, Amharic, Oromo, Tigrinya literature/orature. This will involve inviting a number of international scholars working in the field to discuss and think multilingually and in terms of the co-constitution of Europe and Asia-Africa instead of European centres and Asian-African peripheries.

The CCLPS has been leading cutting-edge research on Asian, African and Middle Eastern cultures, literatures and languages through various projects that interest a large number of staff in the Faculty of Languages and Cultures and other SOAS Faculties. Such discussions have been facilitated through seminars, workshops and international conferences organised regularly at the CCLPS and through joint PhD supervision and joint funding applications. These projects include for example among others, the question of non-European epistemology and knowledge production and consumption in Asia, Africa and the Middle East; the formation of literary history, genres and canonicity in contexts beyond the West; the roles of popular cultures and the CCLPS flagship project on World Literature, which has placed SOAS on the map of world-leading institutions with its innovative and non-Eurocentric focus on Asian, African and Middle Eastern literatures. The CCLPS has benefited from its members’ valuable expertise in the languages and cultures of Asia, Africa and the Middle East; an expertise that attracts high calibre PhD applicants, visiting fellows and researchers.
The CCLPS has one of the best training courses for first year MPhil/PhD students; the weekly course is highly acclaimed by our students as it offers a solid grounding in various research skills and methodologies. Moreover, our CCLPS PhD students gain fantastic professional experience every year as they organise our CCLPS Postgraduate Annual conference which attracts large Postgraduate communities within and outside SOAS. They also benefit from attending and participating in our wide range of regular seminars, lectures and conferences.

Recent PhD Theses

**Natalie Abou Shakra** – Beyond the Culture Industry: Contemporary Music of Dissidence in the Arab World, a Case Study of Egypt

**Tareq AlRabei** – The Dynamics of Belonging in Bidun Literature

**Rasha Chatta** – The Itinerary as a Mode of Existing: Narratives of Wanderers in Contemporary Migrant Literature

**Chanokporn Chutikamoltham** – Ideological State Apparatus and the Return of the Repressed: A Comparative Study of School Textbooks and Thai Popular Culture

**Sarah Doebbert Epstein** – The Ethics of Alterity: A Comparative Critical Approach to Language, Subjectivity and Agency in Arabic Rhetorical Theory and Poststructuralist Thought

**Sara Marzagora** – Images of Italian Occupation in Ethiopian Contemporary Literature

**Cristina Moreno Almeida** – Popular Youth Culture in Contemporary Morocco and the Re-imagining of the Nation: A Case Study of Hip-Hop

**Hany Rashwan** – Arabic Philological Approaches to Ancient Egyptian Poetry: Towards a Comparative Critical Method

**Irene Fernandez Ramos** – Performing immobility: The individual-collective body and the representation of oppressed identities in Palestinian Theatre from the 1990s to the present
Academic Staff

Professor Nadje Al-Ali PhD (London)
Gender Studies

Dr Helen Blatherwick BA, PhD (London)
Near and Middle East

Dr Cosima Bruno BA (Venice) PhD (London)
China and Inner Asia

Dr James Caron BA (Temple); PhD (Pennsylvania)
South Asia

Dr George Dedes BA MA PhD (Harvard)
Near and Middle East

Professor Stephen H Dodd BA (Oxon)
MA PhD (Columbia)
Japan and Korea

Dr Igor Dorfmann-Lazarev PhD (EPHE, Sorbonne)
Near and Middle East

Dr Lindiwe Dovey BA (Harvard), PhD (Cantab)
Africa

Professor Rachel M J Dwyer BA (London)
MPhil (Oxon) PhD (London)
South Asia

Dr Kai Easton BA (Gettysburg) MA PhD (London)
Africa

Dr Ayman El-Desouky BA (Cairo) MA PhD (Austin)
Near and Middle East

Dr Rossella Ferrari BA (Venice) MA PhD (London)
China and Inner Asia

Professor Bernhard Fuehrer BA (Taiwan) PhD (Vienna)
China and Inner Asia

Professor Graham Furniss OBE BA PhD (London)
FBA
Africa (emeritus)

Professor Andrew Gerstle BA (Columbia) MA (Waseda) PhD (Harvard) FBA
Japan and Korea

Dr Marle Hammond BA MA MPhil, PhD (Columbia)
Near and Middle East

Dr Rachel Harrison BA PhD (London)
South East Asia

Dr Sian Hawthorne PhD (London)
Study of Religions

Dr Dana Healy PhD (Prague)
South East Asia

Professor Michael J Hutt BA PhD (London)
South Asia

Dr Angela Impey B.Mus (Cape Town) BA Hons (KwaZulu Natal) PhD (Indiana)
Music

Dr Griseldis Kirsch PhD (Trier)
Japan and Korea

Dr Grace Koh BA (Paris) MSt DPhil (Oxon)
Japan and Korea

Dr Karima Laachir MA PhD (Leeds)
Near and Middle East

Professor Andrew H-B Lo MA PhD (Princeton)
China and Inner Asia

Dr Xiaoning Lu BA (Nanjing), MA (Fudan), PhD (Stony Brook)
China and Inner Asia

Dr Nima Mina BA (Marburg) MMus PhD (Montreal)
Near and Middle East

Dr Ben Murtagh BA MA PhD (London)
South East Asia

Professor Francesca Orsini Laurea (Venice)
PhD (London)
South Asia
Dr Martin Orwin  
BA PhD (London)  
Africa

Dr Kwadwo Osei-Nyame, Jnr  
BA (Ghana) DPhil (Oxon)  
Africa

Professor Wen-Chin Ouyang  
BA BEd (Tripoli)  
MA MPhil PhD (Columbia)  
Near and Middle East

Dr Alena Rettová  
PhD (Charles University, Prague)  
Africa

Dr David A Smyth  
BA PhD (London)  
South East Asia

Dr Stefan Sperl  
BA (Oxon), PhD (London)  
Near and Middle East

Dr Tian Yuan Tan  
MA (National University of Singapore), PhD (Harvard)  
China and Inner Asia

Dr Yair Wallach  
BSc (Jerusalem) MA (UEA) PhD (London)  
Near and Middle East

Dr Amina Yaqin  
BA (Punjab) BA (Sussex) PhD (London)  
South Asia

Dr Katherine P Zebiri  
BA, PhD (London)  
Near and Middle East
The Centre for Film Studies invites applications for disciplinary and interdisciplinary research in Film and Screen Studies with particular reference to Africa, Asia and the Near and Middle East. The Centre’s geographical focus on film/screen industries and movements beyond the dominant Western ‘global’ Hollywood and European economies of production, distribution and exhibition, makes the Centre unique in its approach. We are also keen to promote research on the transnational, transcultural and multi-media nature of the image in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

In a ‘global’ industry, film and media scholars and practitioners are increasingly recognising the need for a move toward the study of image cultures and industries beyond the historical hegemonies of the European and Hollywood industries. The range of expertise in non-Western film/screen studies and cultures offered at SOAS provides a unique opportunity to respond and contribute to current critical and theoretical debates in these disciplines by providing a vibrant intellectual home for research students with an interest in film and screen studies. The mission of the Centre for Film Studies is therefore to promote research on centres of film/screen production, reception and visual cultures beyond the dominant Western ‘global’ Hollywood and European traditions, with the aim of contributing to current debates within the disciplines and interpolating these, through links with practitioners working within the industry, as well as to have an impact on practice and policy.

In addition to generic methods training offered through the Faculty of Languages and Cultures Seminar Series convened by the Associate Dean for Research, MPhil and PhD researchers studying in the Centre for Film Studies are required to attend the one term MA course Cinema, Nation and the Transcultural in the first term and a discipline-specific training seminar ‘Theories and Methods in Film and Screen Studies’ in the second term. The aim of the Centre training programme is to provide a thorough grounding in theory, methods, regional, cultural, linguistic and any special disciplinary expertise that may be required for the research.

The Centre for Film Studies has a vibrant postgraduate research culture, with doctoral researchers helping to organise a twice-termly reading group as well as the annual postgraduate film studies symposium.

Recently Awarded PhDs

Jennifer Coates – National Crisis and the Female Image: Expressions of Trauma in Japanese Film 1945-1964

Duncan Harte – Shanghai Escapade: Cinema, Anticipation and the Touristic City

Montre Missouri – Black Magic Woman: Race, Sex and Afro-Religiosity in Narrative Film

For more information go to www.soas.ac.uk
Academic Staff

Dr Lindiwe Dovey BA (Harvard) PhD (Cantab)Africa

Professor Rachel Dwyer BA (London)MPhil (Oxon) PhD (London)South Asia

Dr Rossella Ferrari BA (Venice) MA PhD (London)China and Inner Asia

Professor Andrew Gerstle BA (Columbia) MA(Waseda) PhD (Harvard) FBAJapan and Korea

Dr Christopher Gerteis BA (Santa Cruz) MA PhD (Iowa)History

Dr Marlé Hammond BA MA MPhil PhD (Columbia)Near and Middle East

Dr Rachel Harrison BA PhD (London)South East Asia

Dr Stephen P Hughes BA (Lewiston) MA PhD (Chicago)Anthropology and Sociology

Dr Griseldis Kirsch MA PhD (Trier)Japan and Korea

Dr Kevin Latham BA (Oxon) PGDip (Zhangshan) MA PhD (London)Anthropology and Sociology

Dr Xiaoning Lu BA (Nanjing) MA (Fudan) PhD(Stony Brook)China and Inner Asia

Dr Ben Murtagh BA MA PhD (London) South East Asia

Professor Wen-Chin Ouyang BA BEd (Tripoli) MA MPhil PhD (Columbia)Near and Middle East

Dr John Parker BA PhD (London)History

Dr Marie Rodet DIPPOL (Rennes) PhD (Vienna)Africa

Dr Isolde Standish BA (Ballarat) BA PhD (London)Japan and Korea
The Department offers supervision of MPhil/PhD research in a wide range of cultural, historical and linguistic subjects. Applicants should not feel constrained to limit their choice of topic to those research areas indicated against the names of current staff. Doctoral researchers have recently worked on a range of topics that include Japanese cinema and television, Kabuki texts, modern Japanese linguistics and literature, Meiji historical texts, Korean linguistics and literature, Korean colonial and 18th-century history, and North Korea. Research undertaken at MPhil and PhD level is based on literary, documentary and archive material available at SOAS and also gathered during fieldwork in Japan and Korea. MPhil/PhD candidates admitted to the Department receive research training in the Faculty-wide first year research training seminar and are also encouraged to participate in specific training offered by the Faculty Centre for Cultural, Literary and Postcolonial Studies (CCLPS).

Recent PhD Theses

**Midori Atkins** – Time and Space Reconsidered: The Literary Landscape of Haruki Murakami

**Spas Angelov Rangelov** – The Grammar and Usage of Korean Phrase-Final Particles

**Katsuyuki Hidaka** – Consuming the Past: Japanese Media at the Beginning of the Twenty-first Century

**Alan Cummings** – Kawatake Mokuami and Kabuki Playwriting, 1850 – 1893

**Andrew Jackson** – The 1728 Musillan Rebellion: Resources and the Fifth-Columnists

**Sarah Son** – Brothers, refugees or migrants? South Korean government policy for North Korean defectors and nation-building in the South Korean national narrative
Academic staff

Professor Stephen H Dodd BA (Oxon) MA PhD (Columbia)
Modern Japanese literature, with particular interest in representations of the native place (furusato); gender/sexuality and modernity

Professor Andrew Gerstle BA (Columbia) MA (Waseda) PhD (Harvard) FBA
Japanese literature, drama, art and thought, primarily of the Tokugawa period, with particular interest in Bunraku and Kabuki theatre

Dr Anders Karlsson MA PhD (Stockholm)
Korean language; literature and society; history of Pre-Modern Korea

Dr Griseldis Kirsch MA PhD (Trier)
Contemporary Japanese culture; Japanese media, mainly television and television drama, with particular interest in representations of China and the memory of the Second World War

Dr Grace Koh BA (Paris) MSt DPhil (Oxon)
Korean and East Asian literary traditions (prose and fiction); literary and intellectual history; travel literature and cultural encounters; critical theory and comparative literature

Dr Owen Miller BA MA PhD (London)
Modern Korean history and society; Korean historiography; social and economic history of 19th and 20th century Korea

Dr Barbara Pizziconi BA (Rome) MA (Tokyo) PhD (Naples)
Japanese applied linguistics; language teaching methodology; second language acquisition with emphasis on pragmatic aspects; linguistic politeness

Dr Nana Sato-Rossberg BA MA PhD (Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto)
History of Translation Studies in Japan, Intergeneric translations (manga to film), Translation of oral narratives or orality. Cultural translation, the relationship between translation and power.

Dr Isolde Standish BA (Ballarat) BA PhD (London)
Film Studies

Professor Jae Hoon Yeon BA MA (Seoul) PhD (London)
Korean language and linguistics, especially morpho-syntax and linguistic typology; structure and history of Korean language; Korean language teaching and translation; modern Korean literature
The Department has a distinguished record of doctoral researcher training leading to the award of a PhD in Near and Middle Eastern Studies. It offers a unique concentration of world-class teaching and research on 5,000 years of culture, from cuneiform and ziggurats to Arabic and Islamic civilization, and the modern revolution in the Middle East. It is the UK’s largest university department specializing in the languages and cultures of the Middle East, with a long and distinguished track record of research on the region’s ancient and modern languages, literatures and cultures.

Research

Staff are engaged in research into Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Arabic and Islamic Studies, Hebrew and Israeli Studies, Persian and Iranian Studies, and Turkish.

While linguistic and literary studies form the core of the Department’s work, some staff additionally specialize in the study of religions and intellectual history, and others have particular interests in such fields as cinema and music. Their expertise is complemented by that of Middle Eastern specialists in other SOAS departments, such as Art and Archaeology, History, and Politics and International Studies, the whole adding up to a unique concentration of world-class teaching and research.
The wide range of subjects studied within the Near and Middle East Department reflects not only the present economic and political importance of the region, but also the diversity and historical depth of culture within an area that stretches from the Atlantic to China’s borders and includes some of the most ancient cradles of civilization and birthplaces of several of the world’s great religions. Staff members have been awarded major grants by funding bodies such as the British Academy, the Leverhulme Trust and the Arts and Humanities Research Council. MA degrees and research supervision are offered in a broad range of fields, spanning the languages, literatures and cultures of the Ancient Near East, mediaeval and modern Iran, the Arab Middle East, the Jewish tradition, and the Islamic world.

Recent PhD Theses

Nora Parr – Inter-textual Nation: Novel Imaginings of Palestinian Community in the Works of Ibrahim Nasrallah


Yusra Khreegi – Women in the Writings of Muhammad Abduh

Ehud Rosen – Modern Conceptualisations of Bid’a: Wahhabis, Salafis and the Muslim Brotherhood

Maria De Cillis – The Discourse of Compromise: Theoretical Constructs of Free Will and Predestination in the Works of Avicenna, Ghazālī and Ibn ʿArabī

Samer Dajani – Ibn ʿArabi’s Conception of Ijtihad: Its Origin and Later Reception


Alyn Desmond Hine – Russian Literature in the Works of Mikhail Naimy

Ahmad Achtar – The Contacts Between Theology, Hermeneutics and Literary Theory: The Role of Majaz in the Interpretation of Anthropomorphic Verses in the Qur’an from the 2nd AH/8th CE until 7th AH/13th CE

Halil Ibrahim Iskender – The Phonology of Arabic Loan Words in Turkish: The Case of T-Palatalisation
Academic staff

Professor Muhammad A S Abdel Haleem OBE BA (Cairo) PhD (Cantab) FCIL (London)
Qur’an, Hadith, Tafsir; Islam in society; classical and modern Arabic literature

Dr Yorgos Dedes BA MA PhD (Harvard)
Early Anatolian Turkish; Ottoman language and literature; Ottoman history; Turkish-Greek relations; modern Turkish culture

Dr Ayman El-Desouky BA (Cairo) MA PhD (Austin)
Comparative literature; 19th and 20th-century Arabic literature; hermeneutics, modern philosophy and theory

Professor Andrew R George BA PhD (Birmingham) FBA
Cuneiform and Ancient Mesopotamian studies

Dr Marlé Hammond BA MA PhD (Columbia) Classical and modern Arabic literature and poetics; Egyptian and Arabic cinemas; Women’s writing; folkloric narrative

Professor Hugh N Kennedy PhD (Cantab) FBA
Medieval history of Arabic-speaking lands

Dr Karima Laachir BA (Abdelmalek Essadi University, Tetouan Morocco) MA PhD (Leeds) PGCHE (Birmingham)
Comparative postcolonial literature (Arabophone, Francophone and Anglophone); Arabic popular culture; Diasporic cultural productions; literature of the North African diaspora (Beur): exclusion of ethnic minorities in Europe with a specific focus on France, postcolonialism and colonial legacies; Islam and Islamophobia

Dr Chris Lucas BA (London) MA PhD (Cantab)
Grammatical change and the interface between syntax, semantics and pragmatics in Arabic and other Afro-Asiatic languages, and in English and other (Indo-)European languages

Dr Nima Mina BA (Marburg) MMus PhD (Montreal)
Classical and Modern Persian literature, Orientalism in 18th–20th century Europe; Middle Eastern minority writers in Europe; diaspora studies; music performance; translation studies

Professor Wen-Chin Ouyang BA BEd (Tripoli) MA MPhil PhD (Columbia University)
Classical and modern Arabic literature; The 1001 Nights and Arabic popular epics; classical and modern Arabic critical thought and theory; networks of circulation and world literature; semiotics of the visual; Silk Road Studies

Dr Mustafa Shah BA PhD (London)
The early Arabic linguistic tradition; classical Islamic theology and jurisprudence

Dr Ayman Shihadeh BA (London) MSt (Oxon) DPhil (Oxon)
Intellectual history, especially the history of mediaeval Arabic philosophy and Islamic theology; Avicenna and the Avicennan tradition

Professor Stefan Sperl BA (Oxon) PhD (London)
Classical Arabic literature, mediaeval Arabic popular literature; court poetry and oral literature; refugee studies

Dr Yair Wallach BSc MA PhD (London)
Culture, society and history of modern Israel/Palestine; visual and material culture; urban studies; Israel-Palestine conflict

Dr Mark Weeden MA (Oxon) MA PhD (London)
Hittite, Akkadian language and literature in Syria
REF submissions by members of the Department included significant and paradigm-shifting monographs, edited collections, journal articles and book chapters on literature, cinema cultural history and postcolonial studies.

The Department has two ERC grants: Francesca Orsini for the comparative study of the multilingual literary histories of north India, the Maghreb, and the Horn of Africa; while James Mallinson has one entitled “The Hatha Yoga Project: Mapping traditions of transnational physical yoga practice through philology and ethnography”.

Amina Yaqin’s current research projects include a collaboration with the Centre for the Study of Pakistan and the University of East London for the ‘Muslims, Trust and Cultural Dialogue’ research project funded by the RCUK. This follows on from an earlier AHRC funded international research network, ‘Framing Muslims’.

The Department offers the widest coverage in Europe of research and teaching related to the languages, literatures and cultures of the principal countries of South Asia: India, Nepal, Pakistan and to a lesser extent of Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

Research expertise in the Department covers four main languages (Hindi, Nepali, Sanskrit and Urdu) and their literatures and cultures. We encourage scholars to develop linguistic fluency as part of research training offering language instruction in Bengali, Gujarati, Pali, Punjabi, Sinhala and Tamil. Research draws heavily upon the resources of the library’s extensive South Asia collection and is closely connected with the work of other SOAS Departments and the South Asia Institute and Centre for the Study of Pakistan, both of which group together scholars of South Asia and Pakistan from all the subject disciplines across the School. The Department and its doctoral researchers work closely with other SOAS Departments and Centres such as the Centre for Film, the Centre for Translation Studies, the Centre for Cultural, Literary and Postcolonial Studies and the Centre for Gender Studies.
Staff research interests include: Sanskrit literature and yoga; asceticism and tantra; 19th and 20th-century South Asian literatures; postcolonial literatures; world literature; culture and society in Nepal; culture and society in Pakistan; sociocultural history in Afghanistan, Pakistan and India; Indian cinema (including ‘Bollywood’) and popular cultures; the multilingual culture and history of medieval and early modern North India; the South Asian diaspora; gender studies and translation. These interests are reflected in the work undertaken by our doctoral researchers.

MPhil/PhD candidates admitted to the Department receive research training in the Faculty-wide first year research training seminar and are also encouraged to participate in specific training offered by the Faculty Centre for Cultural, Literary and Postcolonial Studies (CCLPS).
Recent PhD Theses

Abu Musa Mohammad Arif Billah – The Influence of Persian Literature on Two Medieval Bengali Poets – Shah Muhammad Sagir and Alaol

Mayurika Chakravorty – Enchantment and the Politics of Subversion: Fantasy Fiction in Colonial Bengal

Mona Chettri – Identity Politics in the Eastern Himalayas

Fabrizio Ferrari – Surrendering to the Earth: A Feminine Interpretation of Dharma Worship in Bengal with Special Reference to the Sunya Purana

Sutanaka Ghosh – Reading Beyond History: Women’s Writing in India 1930–1955

Louise Harrington – Conflicted Places and Thirdspaces: The Landscape of Partition in South Asian Literature and Film

Syed Asif Haider – Muslim Modernities on the Hindi screen


Choy Fah Kong – Saccakiriya: The Belief in the Power of Spoken Truth in Theravada Buddhist Tradition


Nuno Mourato – Translating Hinduism: Juan Mascaro and Indian Spirituality

Manjita Palit – Songs of the Body: Embodiments of Sexuality in Bengali Literature and Culture, 1880–1920

Rashi Rohatgi – Fighting Cane and Canon: Reading Abhimanyu Unnuth’s Hindi Poetry in and Outside of Literary Mauritius

Udeni Samarasekara – Reconstructing the Transition from Oral to Written: the Comparative Genesis and Reception of the Iliad, the Ramayana and the Aeneid

Soofia Siddique – Remembering the Revolt of 1857: Contrapuntal Formations in Indian Literature and History
Academic staff

Dr James Caron BA (Temple) PhD (Penn)  
Modern and early-modern South Asia; Islam in South Asia; Afghanistan and Pakistan; Indo-Persianate sociocultural history; activism and social movements; methods in social history beyond the archive

Professor Rachel Dwyer BA (London) MPhil (Oxon) PhD (London)  
Hindi Cinema; Indian film; Hinduism; new middle classes; Mumbai/Bombay; Gujarati diaspora, especially UK and East Africa

Professor Michael J Hutt BA PhD (London)  
Nepali literature; the Nepali media; Nepali politics; Bhutanese refugees.

Dr James Mallinson BA (Oxon) MA (London) DPhil (Oxon)  
Sanskrit language and literature; yoga

Professor Francesca Orsini Laurea (Venice) PhD (London)  
Hindi literature; North Indian multilingual literary culture; Hindi; Urdu; world literature

Dr Amina Yaqin BA (Punjab) BA (Sussex) PhD (London)  
Urdu language and literature; postcolonial studies; gender studies; South Asian literatures; transnational feminism; the study of Pakistan; Muslim diaspora studies
REF submissions by members of the Department included significant and paradigm-shifting monographs, edited collections, journal articles and book chapters in cinema and gender, literary criticism, cultural history and postcolonial studies.

The Department is also contributes to the editorship of the international SCOPUS-ranked area studies journals *South East Asia Research* and *Indonesia and the Malay World*.

The Department offers the widest coverage in Europe of research and teaching related to the languages and cultures of the principal countries of South East Asia. Its primary commitment is to the four languages Burmese, Indonesian/Malay, Thai and Vietnamese, and their literatures, cinemas and associated cultures. Khmer (Cambodian) language is also taught at a basic level. The research in the Department draws upon the resources of the SOAS Library’s extensive South East Asia collection as well as primary resources from the countries of its speciality.

The Department and its doctoral researchers work closely with other, SOAS Departments and Centres such as the Centre for Film, the Centre for Translation, the Centre for Cultural, Literary and Postcolonial Studies and the Centre for Gender Studies as well as with the regional Centre of South East Asian Studies (CSEAS), which groups together South East Asia scholars from all the subject disciplines across the School.

The research interests of the Department’s staff include: cinema in South East Asia; modern literature in Malay, Indonesian, Thai and Vietnamese; Islam in South East Asia; language pedagogy; linguistics, phonetics and lexicography of Tibeto-Burman and Mon-Khmer languages; sign languages; gender, cultural, postcolonial and comparative literary studies; oral literature and folklore; and translation. These interests are reflected in the work undertaken by the Department’s research students. MPhil/PhD candidates admitted to the Department receive research training in the Faculty-wide first year research training seminar and are also encouraged to participate in specific training offered by the relevant Faculty Centres noted above.
Recent PhD Theses

Ida Bahar – The Paradigm of Malayness in Literature and Malaysian scholarship

Christopher Button – A Reconstruction of Northern Chin in Old Burmese and Old Chinese Perspective


Caroline Nicole Garsten – A Political Reading of Home and Family in English Language Singaporean Novels (1972–2002)

Sarah Hicks – Syair Selindung Delima: a Literary and Philological Study

Mulaika Hijjas – Victorious Princesses and Virtuous Wives: Popular Syair from 19th-century Riau


Montira Rato – Peasants and the Countryside in Post-1974 Vietnamese Literature

M Arif Rokhman – Encountering the Other in the Works of the Indonesian Literary Association Forum Lingkar Pena

Helga So-Hartmann – A Grammar of Daai Chin

Irene Soldavini – Identity in Vietnamese Diasporic Cinema

Soison Sakolrak – Thai Literary Transformation: an Analytical Study of the Modernisation of Lilit Phra Lor
Academic staff

Dr Rachel Harrison BA PhD (London)
Modern Thai cinema and literature; culture and gender studies with reference to Thailand; literary criticism and South East Asian literatures in a comparative context; Western film set in South East Asia

Dr Dana Healy PhD (Prague)
Modern Vietnamese cultural studies (literature, film, gender); Vietnamese social and cultural history (the Vietnam War; art and politics); the sociology of contemporary Vietnamese literature; the Vietnamese diaspora.

Dr Ben Murtagh BA MA PhD (London)
Modern Indonesian cinema and literature; queer studies and sexuality in Indonesia; representation of genders and sexuality in Southeast Asian film and literatures; traditional Malay literature.

Dr Justin Watkins BA (Leeds) MA PhD (London)
Burmese language and literature; Mon-Khmer and Tibeto-Burman languages; linguistics and phonetics; computer lexicography; sign languages

Dr Mulaika Hijjas BA (Harvard) Mphil (Oxford) PhD (London)
The Malay manuscript tradition; Islam in South East Asia; gender in the Malay world; modern literatures of Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore.

For more information go to www.soas.ac.uk
The Centre for Translation Studies (CTS) was established in the summer of 2008 to promote the study of Translation Studies in relation to Asia and Africa. It provides an administrative and intellectual home for the School's MPhil/PhD Programme in Translation Studies. Drawing on the strengths and expertise of the faculty of the School, the Centre is dedicated to interdisciplinary Translation Studies with particular reference to Asian and African languages and cultures.

The CTS organizes seminars on Translation Studies open to students and staff of the School as well as those of other institutions. It is actively engaged in collaboration with other institutions, at home and abroad, in both translation research and the training of PhD translation students. The Centre is housed in, and administered by, the Faculty of Languages and Cultures, but as a Centre dedicated to interdisciplinary study it is not subordinate to any single Department in the Faculty, either administratively or intellectually. The Centre’s MPhil/PhD programme was launched in 2013. Doctoral researchers admitted to the Centre receive research training in the Faculty-wide first year research training seminar and must also participate in the specific training offered by the Centre for Translation Studies.

We are uniquely positioned in the areas of translation studies with members of staff working in a range of Asian and African languages and engaging in research in translation theory, translation technology, translation as a social practice, translation as political communication, post-colonialism and translation, and subtitling, translation of classics, translation of religious texts. The Centre is integrally linked to various external funding schemes, particularly for the Translating Cultures.

Many of the current PhD candidates in translation are registered in regional departments on topics pertaining to translation studies. With the recent approval of the PhD programme in the Centre, there has been a growing number of candidates to be registered in the Centre. The candidates registered in the Centre are to receive a tailored initial training and MPhil/PhD programme in the Centre. The PhD candidates are encouraged to attend and present at the international conferences. Recent topics include translations of Qur’an and Muslim communities, translation and Thai society, film subtitling and dubbing in China and the impact of translation on transformation of Arabic.
Academic Staff

Professor Muhammad A S Abdel Haleem  
OBE BA (Cairo) PhD (Cantab) FCIL (London)  
Near and Middle East

Dr Cosima Bruno BA (Venice) PhD (London)  
China and Inner Asia

Dr Nada Elzeer BA (Balamand) MPhil (Cantab) PhD (Durham)  
Near and Middle East

Dr Dongning Feng MA (GUFS) MA (Warwick) PhD (Stirling)  
Linguistics

Professor Bernhard Fuehrer BA (National Taiwan) PhD (Vienna)  
China and Inner Asia

Professor Andrew George BA PhD (Birmingham) FBA  
Near and Middle East

Professor Andrew Gerstle BA (Columbia) MA (Waseda) PhD (Harvard) FBA  
Japan and Korea

Dr Chege Githiora BA (Mexico) PhD (Michigan)  
Africa

Dr Rachel Harrison BA PhD (London)  
South East Asia

Dr Nathan W Hill AB AM PhD (Harvard)  
China and Inner Asia

Dr Grace Koh BA (Paris) MST DPhil (Oxon)  
Japan and Korea

Dr Nima Mina MA (Marburg) MMus (Montreal)  
Doctorat és Lettres (Montreal)  
Near and Middle East

Dr Song Lianyi BA (Beijing) MA (Bangor) PhD (London)  
China and Inner Asia

Dr Martin Orwin BA PhD (London)  
Africa

Dr Nana Sato-Rossberg BA MA PhD (Ritsumeikan)  
Japan and Korea

Dr Amina Yaqin BA (Punjab) BA (Sussex) PhD (London)  
South Asia
According to the 2014 Research Excellence Framework assessment, the Department of Linguistics at SOAS has moved up the research rankings and is now in the top ten nationally for its research outputs of world-leading quality and for the vitality of its research environment.

The Department of Linguistics at SOAS was founded in 1932 as the first department of general linguistics in Britain. The research carried out within the Department has made a significant and lasting impact on the development of language documentation and description, linguistic typology, the description and analysis of languages around the world, language policy and language revitalization, sociolinguistics, and language pedagogy. From 2002 to 2015 we were the home of the Hans Rausing Endangered Languages Project, a leading international centre for the documentation, description, archiving and support of endangered languages.

The Department undertakes linguistic study in an unparalleled range of languages, many of which we are documenting for the first time. The research interests of the Department are broad and span the world’s languages, with a focus on languages from Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Australia-Pacific region. Our primary areas of research are linguistic theory, language documentation and description, sociolinguistics, language policy, historical and comparative linguistics, language typology, translation studies and language pedagogy. Through these activities, our Department has close academic ties to the languages and cultures departments in our Faculty, and other departments throughout SOAS, as well as a range of international partners.

Our PhD in Linguistics programme provides doctoral researchers with rigorous training in research methodologies and skills and access to state-of-the-art research facilities for linguistic data processing and analysis, the world’s largest digital archive of endangered languages materials, and to the world-renowned SOAS Library. Our doctoral candidates conduct primary research all over the world in description, documentation, sociolinguistics, language revitalization, language pedagogy and translation studies. We welcome applications from researchers wishing to specialize in these areas.

The Department promotes a range of activities throughout the year, including seminars, workshops, specialist conferences, and a biennial conference on Language Documentation and Linguistic Theory – see our website at www.soas.ac.uk/linguistics for more information.

MPhil and PhD supervision is offered in theoretical, descriptive, documentary and comparative linguistics, sociolinguistics, language policy, language revitalization, translation studies, language pedagogy, and language variation and change. The MPhil/PhD courses include a research training component with foundational and advanced courses in linguistics, training in research methods, and optional courses in a range of studies leading to a dissertation.
Influencing language policy and learning

Dr Julia Sallabank’s research into Guernsey’s little-studied indigenous language, Guernesiais, has greatly informed language planning and policy on the island, particularly with regard to teaching methods and raising awareness of the language among the population. Moreover, her documentation of Guernesiais constitutes a significant contribution to the preservation of Guernsey’s identity and cultural heritage. The research has been conducted in close collaboration with the Guernsey Language Commission, as well as with local NGOs such as the Comité d’la Culture Guernesiaise and La Société Guernesiaise.

Sallabank’s wider expertise on endangered languages more broadly has also resulted in demand for her expertise by organisations unrelated to the Channel Islands. In 2011 she was invited to join a panel of experts on language diversity at UNESCO in Paris and in 2013 she addressed a ministerial meeting of the British-Irish Council on legislation in support of small languages.

Recent PhD Theses

Mohamed Siddiq Abdalla – The influence of translation on the Arabic language: A study on the translation of English idioms on Arabic satellite TV stations

Yun-Hsin Chang – Tense-Aspect-Modality system in Yoruba

Jing Chu – The effects of sound information provided by annotations on Chinese vocabulary acquisition through reading

Cephas Delalorm – Documentation and description of Sɔkpɛlé (A Ghana-Togo Mountain language of Ghana)

Eiko Gyogi – Translation for intercultural education in the foreign language classroom: A case study of elementary and intermediate Japanese students

Thomas A. F. Ritchie – Internal possessor prominence in Chimane

Birgül Yilmaz – Learning ‘my’ language: Moments of languages and identities among Kurds in the UK

Through a combination of coursework, advanced seminars and individual supervision, the MPhil/PhD course aims to provide the intellectual discipline, knowledge and skills required to be a well-rounded researcher. The Department hosts a weekly seminar, as well as research presentations and workshops by staff, students and affiliates within our research community.
Academic staff

Professor Peter K Austin  
BA (AS) Hons PhD (ANU)  
PhD honoris causa (Uppsala)  
Typology; morpho-syntax; language documentation and description; language revitalisation; historical linguistics; Lexical-Functional Grammar; Austronesian languages; Australian Aboriginal languages

Dr Aicha Belkadi  
BA (Westminster)  
MA PhD (London)  
Syntax, morphology-syntax-semantics interfaces; grammaticalisation; aspectual systems; verb semantics and directionality; cartographic approaches; LFG; Berber languages; French

Dr Monik Charette  
BA (UQAM) PhD (McGill)  
Phonology; morpho-phonology; stress systems; vowel harmony; syllabic structure; Altaic languages, Turkish; French

Dr Dongning Feng  
MA (Warwick) PhD (Stirling)  
Sociological approach to translation studies; politics and translation; critical discourse analysis and translation studies; translator’s autonomy, translation and cultural studies; qualitative methodology in translation studies; pragmatics and subtitling, cognitive approach to interpreting studies; Chinese area studies

Dr Maria Flouraki  
BA (Athens) MA PhD (Essex)  
Syntax; syntax-semantics interface; formal semantics; lexical semantics; constraint-based frameworks (LFG and HPSG); lexical aspect; negation; argument structure; Romance languages; Greek; South Asian languages

Dr Nathan Hill  
AB AM PhD (Harvard)  
Old Tibetan to Modern Standard Tibetan as well as Tibetan historical and biographical literature; languages and cultures of Mongolian and other minorities of today’s PRC

Dr Noriko Iwasaki  
PhD (Arizona)  
Second language acquisition (grammatical and pragmatic development, impact of study abroad); language pedagogy; psycholinguistics (language production; cognition and language); Japanese linguistics

Dr Christopher Lucas  
BA (London)  
MPhil PhD (Cantab)  
Historical linguistics; pragmatics; philosophy of language; Dynamic Syntax; Relevance Theory; Arabic; Afro-Asiatic

Professor Friederike Lüpke  
MA (Köln) PhD (Kun)  
Language documentation and description; contact linguistics; anthropological linguistics; syntax-semantics interface; argument structure; Ajami writing in Africa; Mande languages; Atlantic languages; Jalonke (Guinea), Bainouk (Senegal)

Professor Lutz Marten  
MA PhD (London)  
Theoretical and African linguistics, syntax/semanitics and pragmatics, in particular on the interfaces between these modules; Dynamic Syntax; historical linguistics; language and society in Eastern and Southern Africa; comparative Bantu; Bemba; Herero; Swahili

Professor Irina Nikolaeva  
MA Candidate (Moscow)  
PhD (Leiden)  
Syntax, morphology; information structure; typology; lexicalist theories of grammar; Construction Grammar; documentation of endangered languages; Palaeosiberian linguistics; Uralic languages; Altaic languages; Tundra Nenets (northwestern Siberia)

Professor Anne Pauwels  
PhD (Monash)  
Social and sociolinguistic aspects of language and communication, with particular attention to multilingual and transnational settings; multilingualism, language maintenance/shift, language policy in relation to language learning in schools and universities as well as various aspects of the relationship between gender and language

For more information go to www.soas.ac.uk
Dr Kirsty Rowan  MA PhD (London)
Comparative and theoretical phonology, Ancient Egyptian and Meroitic phonology, writing systems, Afro-Caribbean ritual languages

Professor Itesh Sachdev  BSc (Bristol) PhD (McMaster) Emeritus
Social psychology of language and intergroup relations, intercultural communication; identity (minority and majority), bi-multilingualism, multiculturalism, language attitudes and motivations

Dr Sophie Salffner  MA (Bielefeld) MA PhD (London)
Phonetics and phonology; tone; prosody; language documentation; fieldwork; Niger-Congo languages; Ikaan

Dr Julia Sallabank  PhD (Lancaster)
Sociolinguistics; language support; language policy; revitalization methods; literacy practices in endangered languages; Guernesiais

Dr Candide Simard  PhD (Manchester)
Prosody; information structure and languages in contact; Construction Grammar; Australian Aboriginal languages; Austronesian languages; language documentation and description

Dr Justin Watkins  BA (Leeds) MA PhD (London)
Burmese language and literature; Mon-Khmer and Tibeto-Burman languages; phonetics and speech acoustics; computer lexicography; sign languages in South East Asia
The Centre’s world leading interdisciplinary research covers a number of diverse areas, from Global Diplomacy and the United Nations to Multinational Corporations and Energy and Climate Policy.

The CISD welcomes applications from prospective doctoral candidates wishing to undertake multi-disciplinary research in areas of Global Studies related to the research interests of the Centre’s academics and its research programmes. The specific focus of the PhD in Global Studies programme is twofold: thematically, the focus is on the dynamics and evolution of globalization and on specific globe-spanning issues, from a theoretical as well as a policy perspective. Research seeks to study contemporary globalization processes and the political, economic, social and cultural relationships and structures that define and shape these. Methodologically, the programme promotes multi-disciplinary analysis. The distinctiveness of the programme is its multi-disciplinarity. Research projects will study the role of, and interactions between, people, institutions, organizations and states in shaping globalization processes through the prism of at least two of the following academic disciplines: International Relations, Law, Economics, Management Studies, Development Studies, History, Media and Communication Studies. Drawing on the academic expertise of both the Centre and SOAS departments of Law, Politics, and Economics, and leveraging SOAS’ distinctive regional expertise, CISD research seeks to go beyond conventional Western-centric approaches to analysis. We also encourage our students in conducting their research to draw on any related practical or professional experience they might have, as we believe our research should find applicability at relevant policy fora.

The Centre’s major research projects include the Disarmament and Globalization programme, the UN War Crimes Commission from 1943-48, and a project on economic fairness focusing on corporate accountability and limited liability. The Disarmament and Globalization project has been supported by grants from the Polden-Puckham Charitable Foundation and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, and includes work on the global disarmament initiative, SCRAP (Strategic Concept for the Removal of Arms and Proliferation).
Creating a supportive and encouraging student experience is at the heart of CISD’s research activities. Research Degree students are fully supported by their primary and secondary supervisors and the Centre’s Research Tutor, Dr Sutha Nadarajah. Students receive interdisciplinary research methods training in Global Studies through a series of seminars supported by the SOAS Doctoral School and Bloomsbury Doctoral consortium.

Current PhD Global Studies Candidates

**Thomas Ceannt** – Sustainability and replicability of FDI-led industrialisation and development

**Tom Girn** – Internationalism in Early Foreign Affairs and the Origin of the American Constitution

**Vincent Haykmez** – International visa policy

**Ewan Lawson** – The development of regimes to address crimes of sexual violence

**Jonas Mikkelsen** – Multilateralism and future world order

**Kevin Militec** – Theories of disarmament

**Neale Vickery** – British internationalism and the early United Nations
Academic Staff

**Dr Ashley Cox**  BA MA PhD (Leicester)  
Diplomacy, collective security, US foreign and security policy, presidential Studies, transatlantic Relations.

**Dr Catriona Drew**  LLB (Aberdeen) PhD (London)  
Public international law; international legal history (particularly self-determination of peoples), and legal theory

**Dr Harald Heubaum**  MA (Dresden) PhD (London)  
Energy and climate policy in the Asia-Pacific, Europe and the U.S., environmental politics, low-carbon cities and urban resource management, global climate finance, global public policy

**Professor Stephen Hopgood**  BSc (Bristol) DPhil (Oxon)  
International politics of human rights, humanitarianism and international justice; world politics in a post-liberal order.

**Dr Mark Laffey**  BA MA (Canterbury, NZ) PhD (Minnesota)  
International theory; international security; foreign policy analysis; US foreign policy; North-South relations; international organization, global public policy

**Dr Suthaharan Nadarajah**  MA PhD (London)  
International Relations theory; international security; global public policy; North-South relations; civil wars and peace processes; securitized development; the ‘War on Terror’; diasporas and international politics

**Dr Dan Plesch**  BA (Nottingham) PhD (Keele)  
Applied international relations: weapons of mass destruction; diplomacy, globalization and corporate accountability; globalization and democracy; globalization and energy; role of international non-governmental organizations; the United Nations and the Nazis

**Dr J Simon Rofe**  BA MA (Keele) PhD (Wales)  
Diplomacy; US foreign relations in the twentieth century, presidential peacemaking, national security and strategy, US foreign policy and post-war planning, transatlantic relations, sport and diplomacy.

**Dr Pallavi Roy**  MA PhD (London)  
International Economics, political economy of institutions, multi-national corporations and economic development, corruption and governance, modern South Asia

**Dr Leslie Vinjamuri**  BA (Wesleyan University) MSc (London School of Economics) PhD (Columbia University)  
International politics; the politics of international and transitional justice; US foreign policy; international organization; responses to mass atrocities; transatlantic relations
The Department of Development Studies is a world-leading centre for critical and heterodox approaches towards understanding development. In the 2014 national Research Excellence Framework (REF), 60% of our work was defined as world leading and internationally excellent and particular mention was made on our research on the Millennium Development Goals.

The Department has six research clusters:

- Labour, Movements and Development
- Neoliberalism, Globalisation, and States
- Violence, Peace and Development
- Migration, Mobility and Development
- Agrarian Change and Development
- Development Policy, Aid, Institutions and Poverty Reduction

We also host two SOAS-wide research networks: the Water Centre and SEED – SOAS Political Ecology of Environment and Development.
The Department is particularly known for its work on agrarian change, and it hosts the internationally renowned *Journal of Agrarian Change*; several colleagues who work on agrarian change are actively engaged in externally funded research projects, such as the DFID/ESRC funded project on Fair Trade of Agricultural Produce and an ESRC/ERC funded project on inequality and poverty amongst Dalits and Adivasis in Rural India. The department is also recognised for its innovative approaches to understanding violence, conflict and development, which stems from research on borders, refugees and forced migration, and peacebuilding. Several members of staff have been involved in research grants and research-based consultancies that engage with societies in conflict, models of humanitarian and peacebuilding assistance, and border studies. The group is also involved in a joint SOAS – University of Melbourne initiative on the study of frontiers, states and conflict. The department has an important and growing profile of research which investigates changing employment relations, and it combines labour research with the study of social movements, which are often treated as separate fields of research in social science.

More generally, the department as a whole takes a deliberately interdisciplinary approach to research, drawing on perspectives from across the social sciences; also has a clear commitment to fieldwork, allowing us to produce scholarship that blends theoretical approaches with innovative and engaging empirical research. The Department has important field experience in each of the regions that SOAS is renowned for working with (Africa, Asia and the Middle East). Much of the Department’s research is applied and policy-oriented so it has ‘impact’. The Department engages with and shape the policies of a range of organisations: NGOs, governments, international organisations and trade unions, amongst others.
Recent PhD Theses

Elias Ghadban – Cooperative Enterprises and Agricultural Development – The Case of Lebanon

Toufic Haddad – Political Economy of Neoliberal Approaches to Conflict Resolution and Statebuilding in the Occupied Palestinian Territory 1993-2013

Joanna Hoare – Gender and ‘active citizenship’ in the context of international development intervention in Kyrgyzstan


Feyzi Ismail – The consequences of co-option: NGOs, the Left and social change in Nepal

Alinafe Kasiya – The interface between central and local interests in Malawi’s democratic decentralisation: The case of Salima District Council

Sonia Languille – Secondary Education Expansion in Tanzania, 2004-2012: A Political Economy Perspective

David Edward Mansfield – Building a State on a Foundation of Sand: Opium Bans in Areas of Limited Statehood in Afghanistan

Ishita Mehotra – Political Economy of Rural Female Labour: A Study of Labour Relations in East Uttar Pradesh (UP), India

Robtel Neajai Pailey – The Love of Liberty Divided Us Here? Factors Leading to the Introduction and Postponement in Passage of Liberia’s Dual Citizenship Bill

Maria Patricio Stoleroff – Social Boundaries, Political Elite Bargains and (Dis)order in Guinea-Bissau, 1974-1998

Shalini Sharma – New Social Movements and Media: The Case of the Justice for Bhopal Movement in India


Kim Wale – ‘Making our own means’: Counter-Narratives in Squatter Memories of Violence, Resistance and Transition in the Western Cape

Torunn Wimpelmann – The Price of Protection – Gender, violence and power in Afghanistan

Veli Yadirgi – The Political Economy of the Kurdish Question in Turkey: De-Development in Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia
Academic staff

Professor Gilbert Achcar BA (Beirut/Lyons) BA MA (Beirut) PhD (Paris)  
Political economy and sociology of globalization; empire and global power structures; Middle East; North Africa; sociology of religion; social change and social theory

Professor Christopher Cramer BA MPhil PhD (Cantab)  
Political economy: economics of Africa; political economy of war and peace: fair trade; rural labour markets; industrialization

Dr Jonathan Di John BA (Harvard) MPhil PhD (Cantab)  
Political economy: industrialisation, industrial policy and long-run growth (Latin America, especially Brazil, Venezuela and Colombia), taxation (sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America), state resilience and fragility (sub-Saharan Africa); oil states and the resource curse; institutional economics; social service delivery in violence-affected areas

Professor Jonathan Goodhand BA PGCE (Birmingham) MSc PhD (Manchester)  
South, Central Asia, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka; political economy of war and peace, borderlands and conflict, international aid, humanitarianism, post war reconstruction

Dr Laura Hammond BA (Sarah Lawrence) MA PhD (Wisconsin)  
Horn of Africa; Ethiopia; Somalia; forced migration; resettlement; returnees; remittances; international assistance, conflict, gender, food and livelihood security.

Dr Adam Hanieh BSc (Adelaide), MA (Al Quds), PhD (York) Political economy of the Middle East; labour migration; class and state formation in the Gulf Cooperation Council; Palestine

Dr Colette Harris BM MM (London) PhD (Amsterdam)  
Violence and conflict, Muslim societies, sexualities, (reproductive) health, migration, and community development/transformative education – all explored through a gendered lens. Central Asia, Latin America but currently focused mainly on West and East Africa.

Dr Michael Jennings BA MA (Oxon) PhD (London)  
Politics and history of development in Sub-Saharan Africa; governance, civil society, non-governmental organizations and faith-based organizations; social aspects of health in Africa, Eastern Africa

Dr Tania Kaiser BA (Bristol) MPhil DPhil (Oxon)  
Uganda/Sudan, East and West Africa, forced migration; migration; refugees; asylum; gender; humanitarian interventions; anthropology of violence, conflict and development

Dr Jens Lerche MSc PhD (Copenhagen)  
South Asia; agrarian political economy; rural and urban labour relations

Dr Anna Lindley BA (Oxon), MA (Leeds) DPhil (Oxon)  
Migration, livelihoods and politics; displacement and refugee issues; transnationalism and remittances; immigration activism; Eastern Africa; Europe
Dr Thomas Marois  BA MA (Alberta) PhD (York)
Mexico/Turkey/Emerging Capitalisms; political economy of banking, finance and development; alternatives to neoliberalism and financialisation; state-owned banks; privatization; state-capital-labour relations

Dr Zoë Marriage  BA (Oxon) MSc PhD (London)
Sierra Leone, Rwanda, DR Congo, Sudan; political and psychological processes of violence; rural policy

Dr Alessandra Mezzadri  BA (Rome) BA PhD (London)
International trade, ethical trade, corporate social responsibility, global commodity chains; production networks and industrial systems; informality and processes of labour informalisation; inequality and social structures of oppression; gender, feminisms and reproduction; the political economy of the garment industry; the political economy of India

Professor Peter Mollinga  MSc PhD (Wageningen NL) PD/Habil (Bonn)
South Asia, Central Asia; comparative political sociology of water resources and development; technology and agrarian change; boundary work in natural resources management; interdisciplinary social theory

Dr Paolo Novak  MSc PhD (London)
Borders, bordering and development; space and spatiality of development; governance of migration; politics of humanitarianism and refugee protection

Dr Carlos Oya  Licenciatura (Madrid) MSc PhD (London)
Political economy of development; agrarian political economy; poverty; labour; private standards; development aid; research methods; sub-Saharan Africa, especially Senegal, Mozambique, and Ethiopia.

Dr Tim Pringle  BA (Leeds) PhD (Warwick)
China, Vietnam and Russia, labour movements and development, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and trade union reform, internal migration

Dr Matteo Rizzo  BA (L’Orientale), MSc PhD (London)
Africa, Tanzania; political economy of development; labour, the informal economy and trade unions; urbanization and public transport; PPPs and Bus Rapid Transit; agrarian political economy

Professor Alfredo Saad-Filho  BSc MSc (Brasilia) PhD (London)
Latin America; political economy of development; industrial policy; pro-poor economic policy; neoliberalism; labour theory of value and its applications

Dr Subir Sinha  BA (Delhi) MA PhD (Northwestern)
South Asia: institutions and development; civil society, NGOs, social movements; the environment, common property institutions and resource use; history of development; transnationality; theories of the state; social theory as it concerns development; Marxism and post-colonialism

Dr Leandro Vergara-Camus  BA (Québec) MA (UNAM México) PhD (York)
Political economy of Latin America; agrarian political economy, social and peasant movements; state and class formation, alter-globalization movements, autonomy and social change; alternative development; extractive industries, bio-fuels and energy politics
Ever since I was a study abroad student in Ghana and someone mentioned SOAS to me in conversation, I have always wanted to attend the school because of its diversity, its alternative approaches to teaching which challenge mainstream academic discourses, its focus on perspectives from the global south, and its history of activism.

SOAS seems to attract students who are both intellectually engaged with the world around them and committed to making an impact in that world. I wanted to be a part of that magic. For example my cohort group of MPhil/PhD students represent some of the most humble and committed practitioners, activists and intellectuals I’ve come across in one setting.

I got a great first impression of SOAS when I attended the Freshers’ Fair, where every activist cause I could possibly imagine was represented. I realized then that SOAS wasn’t just a specialist in its regional focus but rather an experience in raging against the machinery of corporate social irresponsibility, Eurocentrism, sexism and neoliberal domination. I have been very fortunate to be able to produce and host Africa Regional Spotlights on SOAS Radio, returning to one my many loves, broadcast journalism.
The Department of Economics at SOAS University of London has been ranked 7th nationally for the quality of its research in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework, with more than 60% of research judged as ‘world-leading’ or ‘internationally excellent’.

The Department’s research into the economics of development and growth is wide-ranging and unique in the depth and range of its regional coverage. Theoretically, the Department inclines towards Political Economy and Heterodox Economics, covering aspects of economic theory, evidence, application and policy that allow for but go beyond mainstream paradigms. Our staff members include regional specialists with a broad range of theoretical, applied and policy interests, who are receptive to inter-disciplinarity. Staff are currently collaborating on funded research on grant-funded projects from the EU.

Qualified applicants may be accepted to read for either an MPhil/PhD Economics, MPhil/PhD in Development Economics, or an MPhil/PhD in International Development (for which a parallel programme exists in the Department of Development Studies). Normally a high Masters in Economics is prerequisite for the MPhil/PhD Economics. An appropriate Masters is also required for the MPhil/PhD in International Development. Whether applicants are admitted to Economics or Development Studies depends upon their academic background, topic and training and supervisory needs; applicants to one of the two Departments offering this degree will be advised should the other Department seem more appropriate.

General Areas of Research

A number of research clusters are managed in the department:

- Feminist Political Economy and Development
- Industrial Development and Policy
- International Financial Institutions, Neoliberalism and Knowledge
- Food, Nutrition and Health in Development
- Money, Finance and Development

Department staff are also active in many of the shared Economics/Development Studies research clusters: Globalization, Governance and Neo-Liberalism; Labour, Social Movements and Development; Agrarian Change, Rural Labour and Institutions; Violence, Peace and Development; Migration, Mobility and Development; Agriculture and Health; and Environment and Development.
Recent Research Grants

- Members of the Money Finance and Development cluster participate in the research of the Financialisation, Economy, Society and Sustainable Development (FESSUD) project, funded by the European Commission.

- Danish Strategic Fund – ‘Healthy and Affordable Protein for the African Middle-Class’. WP6 April 2015-April 2017: Consumer preferences and communication of product health properties in the West African market


- Fair Trade, Employment and Poverty Reduction Project, http://ftepr.org, a four-year DFID funded project looking at the impact of Fairtrade on wage workers in tea, coffee and cutflower production in Uganda and Ethiopia

Doctoral researchers: what to expect

We enable our researchers to gain an understanding of theoretical and analytical issues; to be able to apply this training to a spectrum of problems relevant to the countries of Asia, Africa and the Middle East and the global economy, and other topics as appropriate; and to become familiar with the apparatus of econometrics, including appropriate statistical tools.

The quality of postgraduate research depends on a close relationship between students and supervisors, who meet regularly. Each researcher has a supervisory committee appropriate to the theoretical, empirical and/or regionally specific issues being researched. The Research Tutor, who has overall responsibility for postgraduate researchers, is available for discussion of general problems. Full computing facilities are available to doctoral researchers, and the Departmental Empirical Support Committee (DESC) offers detailed advice to students individually about fieldwork and empirical analysis.

Doctoral researchers are required to participate in a workshop/seminar at which their research is presented and discussed by both staff and doctoral candidates. There is a training programme for first year students. A regular Departmental Political Economy of Development seminar hosts papers by members of the Department and visiting speakers. London provides unrivalled opportunities to hear papers by leading authorities in African and Asian studies presented at seminars in the School (especially its regional and inter-disciplinary Centres) and to the other colleges and institutes of the University of London.
Recently Awarded PhDs

Mimoza Shabani – The Incidence of Bank Default and Capital Adequacy Regulation In U.S.A. and Japan

James Meadway – Stocks, Flows, and Uncertainty: Critical Problems in the Stock Flow Consistent Approach to Monetary Economics

Hanna Lotta Takala-Greenish – The Emperor’s New Clothes - A political economy study of the South African textiles and clothing industry


Pinar Cakiroglu – Industrialisation in Provincial Macedonia in the late Ottoman Era: Economic, Social and Communal Factors

Sophie Van Huellen – Excess Volatility or Volatile Fundamentals? - The impact of financial speculation on commodity markets and implications for cocoa famers in Ghana

Gong Hoe Gimm – An Extension of Nineteenth Century Political Economy through Consideration of Capitalism as a World Economy: The Case of Karl Marx

Academic staff

Dr Antonio Andreoni BSc (Bologna), MSc (Bologna), MPhil (Cambridge), PhD (Cambridge)
Industrial economics and policy; Theory of production, capabilities and commons; Microeconomics of manufacturing systems; Technology infrastructure and intermediate institutions; Structural economic dynamics; Inter-sectoral linkages; Comparative political economy of development; Industrial competitiveness; Collective capabilities and microfinance

Dr Ourania Dimakou BSc (Athens) MSc (London)
Monetary and fiscal policy interactions, institutional economics; corruption; Central Bank independence

Professor Ben Fine BA BPhil (Oxon) PhD (London)
Southern Africa: the mineral-energy complex in South Africa; the political economy of consumption, particularly food; privatization and industrial policy; political economy and economic theory; labour market theory; economic imperialism; social capital

Dr Hassan Hakimian BSc (London)
MPhil DPhil (Sussex)
Human resources; demography; trade policy and regional integration; energy and natural resources with reference to the MENA region

Professor Jane Harrigan BA (Oxon) MPhil (Cantab) PhD (Manchester)
International financial flows; IMF and World Bank programmes in developing countries; the political economy of economic liberalization in the Middle East and North Africa; food policies in Sub-Saharan Africa

Dr Hannah Bargawi BA (Manchester) MSc PhD (London)
Trade, poverty and inequality, commodities, international debt and aid, international financial institutions, rural development, agriculture, intra-household research, Africa, Middle East, Asia

For more information go to www.soas.ac.uk
**Dr Deborah Johnston**  
BA MPhil (Cantab)  
PhD (London)  
Analysis and measurement of poverty; the working of rural labour markets; agrarian change and rural development; the socio-economic impact of HIV/AIDS

**Professor Massoud Karshenas**  
BSc (Econ)  
MSc (Econ) (London) PhD (Cantab)  
Middle East: oil and economic development; diffusion of new technologies; labour markets and structural adjustment; intersectoral resource flows, environment

**Professor Mushtaq Khan**  
BA (Oxon)  
MPhil PhD (Cantab)  
South and South East Asia: institutional economics and political economy; the economics of rent-seeking, corruption and patron-client networks; late industrialization and the state

**Dr Dic Lo**  
BSc (Econ) (Chinese, H.K.)  
MA (East Anglia) PhD (Leeds)  
China: industry and trade in China; late industrialization; the Soviet-type economic system and transformation

**Dr Satoshi Miyamura**  
BA (Tokyo) MA (Hitotsubashi)  
MSc (London)  
Institutional economics; labour economics; political economy of collective bargaining; economics of South Asia and Japan

**Dr Risa Morimoto**  
BSc (Sheffield)  
MSc PhD (Cantab)  
Environmental economics; development economics; economics of hydropower development; energy economics; transport economics; economics of sustainable business; sustainable economic development policy in developing countries; climate change

**Dr Ioana Negru**  
BA (Brasov, Romania)  
MA (Paris XII) PhD (Bucharest) PhD (Nottingham)  
Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Economics and economic methodology, scientific pluralism, heterodox economics, ethics and economics, Methodology and Philosophy of Austrian economics, Economics of Altruism and Gift, Methodology of Macroeconomics, Ecological and green economics.

**Professor Machiko K Nissanke**  
MSc (Moscow)  
MSc PhD (London) Emerita  
Africa and Asia: North-South economic relations; adjustment and development; finance and development; international trade and finance

**Professor Duo Qin**  
MA (London) DPhil (Oxon)  
History and methodology of econometrics; macroeconometrics applied to economic development

**Dr Matteo Rizzo**  
BA (L’Orientale)  
MSc PhD (London)  
Economics of Africa: Africa, agrarian change and rural development; urbanization and informal labour markets; privatization and economic deregulation

**Professor Jan Toporowski**  
BSc MSc PhD (Birmingham)  
Macroeconomics; monetary policy; Kalecki and post-Keynesian economics; credit cycles; the Franc Zone

**Dr Elisa Van Waeyenberge**  
BA (KUL Belgium)  
MSc PhD (London)  
Political economy of aid and policy reform in low-income countries; the international financial institutions; development policy and theory; macroeconomics and research methods

**Dr Ulrich Volz**  
MSc PhD (Berlin)  
International finance; open economy macroeconomics; financial market development and stability; development and transition economics; global economic
The Business and Management Studies sub panel of REF 2014 ranked our research among the leading universities in the UK with a ranking of 18th out of over 100 universities. 95% of the School’s research activity was rated as world leading, internationally excellent, or internationally recognized academic strength. The Department's research impact rating was outstanding in terms of its global reach and significance for the policy makers and economic and management practice.

The School of Finance and Management was established to act as a focal point for research in management and finance, a field in which SOAS’s reputation was established by Professor Edith Penrose’s seminal work, five decades ago. Edith Penrose founded an influential theory of the growth of the firm, initiated the study of multinational enterprises, and analysed the oil economies of the Middle East. Our research strength and associated postgraduate and undergraduate programmes have established the School as a major research centre in international finance and management combining general expertise in these core subject areas with specialist knowledge of finance and management in Asia and Sub-Sahara Africa and the MENA region. Our research on the economic, managerial and financial systems of these countries is central to understanding the great global shifts affecting international management, business and finance today.

While maintaining a strong regional focus on Asia, Africa and the Middle East, our research on business, trade and management systems is underpinned by broader analyses, including studies of the EU and USA.

We encourage pure theoretical work on topics related to the above themes. Additionally, many of our doctoral researchers work on applied topics i.e. particular analyses of actual economies, markets and enterprises. Applied work is always grounded in theoretical perspectives derived from principles and advances in the sub-disciplines that contribute to the broad field of finance and management. The sub-disciplines include branches of Economics, Finance, Accounting, Statistics & Econometrics, Marketing, Strategy, Innovation and Enterprise, Governance, Law, Sociology, History, Public Policy, Environment Studies and Regional Studies.

Research

Doctoral researchers work in a stimulating, co-operative and interactive environment. New insights and approaches are stimulated by the cross fertilization of postgraduate researchers’ and faculty’s different perspectives, research methods, and topics. When applying, you are welcome to propose your own innovative study or you may seek advice from a particular member of faculty- with whom you would like to study – for a suitable research topic to turn into a proposal before you formally apply to SOAS. Progress towards the award of the PhD occurs in close collaboration with the individual candidate’s supervisor and other faculty members, and follows a structured path. In the first year doctoral candidates undertake training in research methods and take an additional postgraduate course in a specialist fields. Upgrade from MPhil status to the full PhD track takes place in the summer of the first year on production of the first set of write-
ups. Until completion all doctoral researchers participate in School research seminars and in the MPhil/PhD seminar series where they also give presentations and receive detailed feedback. Doctoral researchers are encouraged to present papers at relevant conferences and they may also co-author academic papers with their supervisor as the research develops. Conference funding is available from the Doctoral School for all doctoral candidates in either their third or their fourth year of full-time study.

The research interests of faculty members cluster around a number of topics. These include: Banking, Financial Institutions and Financial Regulation; Financial Markets and Macroeconomics; Corporate Finance, Corporate Governance, and Stakeholder Interests; Marketing and the Economics of Advertising; Strategy and Decision Making; Innovation and Entrepreneurship; Network Analysis and Trust; International Management and Foreign Direct Investment; Environmental Management and Sustainable Development. (Departmental faculty researching Environmental Management and Sustainable Development include colleagues in the Centre for Development, Environment and Policy, CEDEP)

We welcome high quality applications for the MPhil/PhD programme especially in any of the above fields. In addition, applications for admission to the research degree programme in other areas are welcome if they match the major research interests of individual faculty members, as listed below. We should stress that competition is high and that we tend to accept only one applicant in every ten. For that reason you are well advised first to make informal contact with an individual member of staff. Note also that we pay particular attention to academic records and has a strong preference for candidates with a first class degree and a Distinction at Masters level.

Re-evaluating the way we manage crucial resources

The fact that water is an essential resource for the long-term sustainability of any society is axiomatic. But what about the way water is managed — is there a one size fits all system of governance?

Typically, at state level, water resources are governed by top-down, hierarchical approaches. In contrast, the research of Professor Laurence Smith has demonstrated the success of approaches that privilege local stakeholder input and collaborative management at catchment level. Research outputs have contributed to improved and reformed water management in the UK and internationally, evidenced by their adoption by local authorities, NGOs, Defra and others, and promotion in the guidance proffered by organisations including Defra and the OECD.
Recent PhD Theses

Hoa Thanh Duong – Asset Pricing Models in Financial Crisis, Family Ownership and Privatisiation: Evidence from Turkey

Jing Bian – Towards an Efficient Information Disclosure System in the Chinese Securities Market: A Comparative Study between Mainland China, the UK and Hong Kong

Alasdair Brown – Essays on the economics of betting markets

Alessandra Dal Colle – Essays on Financial Development and Growth

Zhongnan Huang – Seasoned equity offerings in China

Graeme Baber – The Impact of Legislation and Regulation on the Freedom of Movement of Capital in Estonia, Poland and Latvia

Tetsuji Tanaka – Risk Assessment of Food Supply: A Computable General Equilibrium Approach

Nhat To Van – Financial Constraints and Investment: Evidence from Vietnamese Small and Medium Enterprise

Hsiang-Chun Michael Lin – The Investment Behaviour of Chinese Listed Firms

Eunsuk Hong – Location of Foreign Direct Investment in China: A Spatial Dynamic Analysis by Country of Origin

Sebastian Bruck – The Making of Banking Scope Regulation: A Comparative Political Economy Analysis across Mainland China, Korea and Taiwan

Franka Klingel – Driving Forces of Privatization and Liquidation: Evidence from the Chinese State Sector

Jao Lee – Exchange Rate Volatility and Currency Risk Management: The Case of Indonesia, Korea and Thailand

Laila Kassam – Assessing the contribution of agriculture to poverty reduction in Ghana

Lucrezia Stella Tincani – Resilient Livelihoods: adaptation, food security and wild foods in rural Burkina

Vivian del Carmen Polar Funez – Participation for Empowerment: An Analysis of Agricultural Innovation in Two Contrasting Settings of Bolivia

For more information go to www.soas.ac.uk
Academic staff and research interests

Dr Ibrahim Abosag  PhD (Nottingham)
International Business-to-Business Relationships, Management and Performance; Brand Relationship and Management; Online and Virtual Marketing

Dr Richard Alexander  MA (Cantab) Dip (City) PhD (London)
Combating of financial crime – money laundering, corruption; Asset recovery/forfeiture; Securities law and regulation; Banking regulation.

Professor Robert F Ash  BA MSc (Econ) PhD (London)
China’s economic development in the 20th and 21st centuries; evolution of ‘Greater China’; economic development of Taiwan and cross-Strait economic relations

Dr Alberto Asquer  Econ (Cagliari) MSc (London) PhD (Salerno) PhD (London)
Public management: strategy, innovation and public service delivery; Public policy: theories of the policy process, policy capacity, policy analysis; Regulation and governance: regulatory policy and regulatory reform of infrastructure and utilities

Professor Reinhard Bachmann  PhD (Dortmund)
Strategic Management, Organizational Analysis and Comparative Management. The role of social mechanisms (trust, power etc.) and societal influences (institutional arrangements, cultural traditions) on the structure and strategic organization of business relationships

Dr Hong Bo  BA MA (Lanzhou) MSc (LSE) PhD (Groningen)
Firm investment decisions under uncertainty; capital market imperfections; corporate finance; corporate governance; finance in China

Dr Senija Causevic  M.Oecc (Croatia) MA (Westminster) PhD (Strathclyde)
Commodification and appropriation of cultural heritage; Country/destination branding; Luxury branding; Critical marketing, critique of consumerism and imagination of the east-west binaries

Dr Ben Daley  BSc (Sheffield) MSc (Birmingham) PhD (James Cook)
[CEDEP] Environmental change; environmental history; environment and development

Professor Andrew Dorward  BA (Oxon) PhD (Reading)
[CEDEP] Agricultural input subsidies in low income countries; Food prices and sustainable agriculture and food systems; Agriculture – health linkages in smallholder agriculture

Professor Ciaran Driver  BE (NUI) MA (Lums) MSc (London) PhD (CNAA)
Theories of corporate governance; Capital investment and R&D; Economic policy

Professor Bassam Fattouh  BA (Beirut) MSc PhD (London)
Management in Middle East and North Africa (MENA), managerial systems and management of renewable and non-renewable resources in the Middle East; energy economics; financial economics; Islamic banking and finance.

Dr Alberto Feduzzi  BA Doc (Rome III) PhD (Cantab)
Strategic and organizational decision making; Project management under high uncertainty; behavioural economics and the behavioural foundations of strategy.

Dr Maurizio Fiaschetti  BSc, PhD (Rome- Tor Vergata)
Determinants of long term-savings, finance, banking and pension funds; applied econometrics, consumption, savings and behavioural economics; determinants of a we-thinking approach and well-being expenditure preferences.
Mr Norman Flynn  BA (Econ) (Sussex) MA (Econ) (Newcastle)
Management in government; government-society relationships; performance management

Dr Matthew Haigh  BCom MCom PhD (Macquarie) CA CISA
Environmental regulation and communications; Behavioural norms in the banking sector; Efforts of the ‘socially responsible investment’ field to gain credibility; Consumers’ aspirations in respect of ethical investment products; Regulation applicable to financial products constructed by reference to social considerations.

Dr Ben Hardy  BVMS (Edinburgh) MBA, MPhil, PhD (Cantab), MRCVS
Morale in organisations; linguistic ambiguity in management research; the bodily impact of social phenomena and social impact of bodily phenomena; the role of hormones in risk perception,

Professor Laurence Harris  BSc (Econ) MSc (Econ) (London)
Financial sector growth and change; Central banking; Financial markets in macroeconomics

Dr Eunsuk Hong  BA BBA MBA (Korea) MSc PhD (London)
Foreign Direct Investment; Chinese economy/management; Spatial determinants of economic/business activities.

Dr Linda Hsieh  BA (Sheffield) MSc (Reading) PhD (Birmingham)
Internationalisation of SMEs, decision making nodes, sources of information and networks; International Strategic Alliances (SAs), post-formation dynamics of SAs, renegotiation, adaption and change in governance post SA formation.

Professor Gerhard Kling  PhD (Tuebingen)
Corporate Governance in China; Mergers & Acquisitions: Theory and empirical evidence; Internationalization of Chinese companies

Dr Tolulola Lawal  Bsc (Ogun State) MSc (Birmingham) PhD (Imperial) ACA, ACIB
Corporate Finance and Corporate Governance; Market based accounting research (the relationship between accounting choices/disclosures and stock market variables)

Dr Helen Macnaughtan  BA (Waikato) MA PhD (London)
Japanese economy; employment of women in Japan; role of women’s sport in Japan.

Dr Federico Mucciarelli  Law (Bologna) LLM (Heidelberg) Doctorate (Brescia)
Takeover regulation; Corporate law and corporate governance; International corporate and insolvency law; Law and politics

Dr Mark Neal  BA (Reading) PhD (Bournemouth)
Management and leadership in the Middle East and South East Asia; corruption; tourism; business education and poverty reduction; sustainable development in MENA and SE Asia

Dr Andrew Newsham  PhD
[CEDEP] The role of locally held knowledge in climate change adaptation in Africa and Latin America; Vulnerability to climate impacts; Conservation and development

Professor Christine Oughton  BA (UEA) PhD (Cantab)
National and Regional Innovation Systems; Ownership, Corporate Governance, Regulation and Diversity, including in the Finance Sector and in the Football Industry; Complexity Economics and Environmental Sustainability

Dr Nigel Poole  BSc MSc PhD (London) [CEDEP]
Agribusiness; supply-chain management.

Mr Colin Poulton  BA (Oxon) MSc (London) [CEDEP]
Food policy, agricultural growth and poverty reduction.
Ms Sonja Ruehl  BA PGCE (Oxon) MSc (Econ) (London)
Financial sector development in Japan and Vietnam; gender issues in financing development; microfinance institutions in Vietnam.

Professor Pasquale Scaramozzino  Laurea (Rome) MSc (Econ) PhD (London)
Applied Econometrics; Corporate Finance; Public Finance; Economics of India.

Professor Bhavani Shankar  BA (Madras), MA (New York), PhD (Illinois)
[CEDEP] Analysis of economic drivers of over and under nutrition, nutrition transition, dietary policy evaluation, impact assessment and the role of agriculture in enabling better nutrition and health.

Dr Yoshikatsu Shinozawa  BA (HOSEI) MBA (LBS), PhD (Nottingham)

Professor Laurence Smith  BSc (Cranfield) MSc (London)
[CEDEP] Water resource management and policy; agricultural development.

Professor Laixiang Sun  BSc MSc (Peking) PhD (Inst Soc Studies)
Corporate finance and governance; comparative economics; integrated modeling; business management; Chinese economy.

Dr Gary Schwartz  LLM/CBA (Northwestern) MBA (Chicago) MPA (Harvard) PhD (WHU)
The effectiveness and efficiency of organisations; public administration issues, leadership and the boundaries of organisations and sectors; transactions cost theory and the design of organisational support activities in the public and private sectors.

Dr Damian Tobin  BA MBS Econ (Limerick) PhD (London)
Hong Kong’s financial system; Renminbi Internationalisation, banks and monetary policy in China; Economic modernisation, the State and living standards in China since 1949; Enterprise Management reforms in China, especially in the oil sector.

Dr Tuukka Toivonen  BSc (Ritsumeikan) MSc (Oxford) PhD (Oxford)
Organisational sociology; social innovation and entrepreneurship; collaborative innovation communities and networks; the emergence of alternative organisational models and institutional frameworks; youth-led social entrepreneurship; youth issues in Japan; social policy; comparative research (esp. Europe and East Asia).

Dr Frauke Urban  BSc MSc PhD (CEDEP) Low carbon development and climate change mitigation; Energy policy; China as a rising power and its environmental impacts.

Dr Huan Zou  BA LLB (Peking) PhD (Manchester)
Internationalisation of firms from and to emerging economies; growth strategy of entrepreneurial firms; relationship management between entrepreneurs and investors.
The SOAS interdisciplinary Centre for Gender Studies has been established to promote the study of gender in relation to Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Its primary objectives are to promote interdisciplinary research and teaching in the field of Gender Studies with particular reference to Asia, Africa and the Middle East and through the study of diaspora. Key research focus include: study of gender in the Middle East, Asia and Africa, gendering migration and diaspora, gender and law, queer theories, cultural studies and transnational feminist approaches.

The Centre provides a unique forum for interdisciplinary collaboration in the research and teaching of Gender Studies both within SOAS and in conjunction with other institutions. It is well known for its high profile public events series, including the CGS Seminar Series and biennial conference. Doctoral students are given the opportunity to participate in broader Bloomsbury Gender Network events as well as those organized by the Centre for Gender Studies.

The Centre places an emphasis on the acquisition of critical theoretical skills, critical feminist methodologies and in-depth regional knowledge across disciplines. Members of the Centre and current doctoral researchers work on an exceptionally wide range of topics, both theoretical and empirical. Supervision for research students can be provided across this range. Doctoral researchers may register for a degree in Gender Studies while being supervised by an associate member based in a SOAS department.

The Centre expects doctoral researchers to participate in research and teaching events leading towards the upgrade from MPhil to full PhD status at the conclusion of the first year of training. Many CGS researchers will undertake fieldwork during their second year of enrolment, although this is not compulsory as students are able to tailor the research to suit their project. The Centre also offers Graduate Teaching Assistant posts to doctoral researchers who have successfully completed the first year (subject to availability of posts) and encourages researchers to develop as cross disciplinary scholars who contribute to the field of research in innovative and exciting ways.

In addition to generic methods training, doctoral researchers in Gender Studies are required to attend a training seminar in methodologies and methods in Gender Studies in terms 1, 2 and 3 while auditing the Gender Theory course. The aim of the training programme is to provide a thorough grounding in theory, methods, regional, cultural, linguistic and any special disciplinary expertise that may be required for the research. The training seminar is a weekly course of seminar-classes designed for first year research students consisting of doctoral candidate presentations and discussions.
Recent Research Theses

**Fung Sheng Isabella Ng** – *Is there still a Gender Divide: Indigenous Women in Hong Kong since the Legitimization of Female Land Inheritance during the Post-Colonial Era*

**Leyli Irani Behbahani** – *Iranian Feminisms: Transnational Connectivities between Home and Diasporas*

**Alicia Izharuddin** – *Gender and Islam in Indonesian Cinema*

**Afaf Almala** – *Gender and Guardianship in Jordan: Femininity, Compliance and Resistance*

**Lara Momesso** – *Cross-Straight Marriage Migrants between Taiwan and China: gendering personal and collective strategies*

**Muna Hersi** – *Negotiating Rape: Understanding the Collective, Gender and Identity in Somaliland*

**Katherine Natanel** – *Active (Dis)engagement: The Gendered Production of Political Apathy in Israel*

**Marta Pietrobelli** – *In Whose Interests? The Politics of Gender Equality in Jordan*


**Jennifer Langer** – *Exile from Exile: The Representation of Cultural Memory in Literary Texts by Exiled Iranian Jewish Women*
Academic Staff

**Professor Nadje Al-Ali** BA (Tuscon) MA (Cairo) PhD (London)
Women & gender in the Middle East; women’s movements and feminism in Middle East; secularism and Islamism; transnational migration, diaspora mobilization; gendering violence, war and peace; history of Iraqi women; impact of sanctions, war and occupation on Iraqi women, Iraq.

**Dr Ruba Salih** BA (Bologna) PhD (Sussex)
Gender, Islam and modernity in the Middle East and Europe; Islamic feminism, secular and religious women’s movements in the Middle East, transnational migration and gender, multiculturalism and citizenship; Islam in Europe, globalization; diaspora and refugee studies; the Palestine question.

**Dr Gina Heathcote** BA LLB (Australia) LLM (Westminster) PhD (London)
International feminist legal theories; International Law especially laws on the use of force; collective security; political and legal theories

**Dr Alyosxa Tudor** BA (Berlin) MA (Berlin) PhD (Linköping)
Trans_feminism; Racism, Migratism and Constructions of Europeanness; Critical European Studies; Postcolonial Studies; Critical Migration Studies; Interdependencies/Intersectionality; Diaspora Studies.

Associate Members (with Department)

**Dr Samia Bano** BA (Oxford Brookes) MA (Greenwich) PhD (Warwick)
Law

**Dr Hannah Bargawi** BA (Manchester) MSc PhD (London)
Economics

**Professor William G Clarence-Smith** MA (Cantab) DIPPOL (Paris) PhD (London)
History

**Dr Christopher Davis** BA (Sarah Lawrence), MA, PhD (Chicago)
Anthropology

**Professor Stephen Dodd** BA (Oxon) MA PhD (Columbia)
Japan and Korea

**Dr Lindiwe Dovey** BA (Harvard), PhD (Cantab)
Africa & Film Studies

**Dr Kai Easton** BA (Gettysburg) MA PhD (London)
Africa

**Dr Kate Grady** LLB (Leeds), LLM, PhD (Bristol), PGDip (UWE)
Law

**Dr Aeyal Gross**
Law

**Dr Laura Hammond** BA (Sarah Lawrence) MA PhD (Wisconsin)
Development Studies

**Vanja Hamzić** BFA (Sarajevo) BDes (Sarajevo) LLM (Nottingham), PhD (London)
Law, South Asia

**Dr Colette Harris** PhD (Amsterdam)
Development Studies

**Dr Rachel Harris** BA(Oxon) MMUS PhD (London)
Music

**Dr Rachel Harrison** BA PhD (London)
South East Asia

**Dr Sian Hawthorne** PhD (London)
Study of Religions and Philosophies

**Dr Angela Impey** BA (Durban) BMus (Cape Town) PhD (Indiana)
Music

**Dr Jieyu Liu** PhD (York)
China Institute

**Dr Tanja Kaiser** BA (Bristol) MPhil DPhil (Oxon)
Development Studies

**Professor Laleh Khalili** BSc (Texas) MPhil PhD (Columbia)
Politics and International Studies

**Dr Karima Laachir** MA PhD (Leeds) PGCE (Birmingham)
Near and Middle East

**Dr Helen Macnaughtan** BA (Waikato) MA PhD (London)
Finance and Management, Japan Studies

For more information go to [www.soas.ac.uk](http://www.soas.ac.uk)
Dr Dina Matar  BSc (Jordan) MSc PhD (London)  
Media and Film Studies

Dr Zoë Marriage  BA (Oxon) MSc PhD (London)  
Development Studies

Dr Alessandra Mezzadri  BA (La Sapienza) MA PhD (London)  
Development Studies

Dr Ben Murtagh  BA MA PhD (London)  
South East Asia

Dr Eleanor Newbigin  MA PhD (Cantab)  
History

Professor Francesca Orsini  BA (Venice) PhD (London)  
South Asia

Dr Caroline Osella  BA PhD (London)  
Anthropology and Sociology

Professor Wen-chin Ouyang  BA BEd (Tripoli) MA MPhil PhD (Columbia)  
Near and Middle East

Dr Navtej K Purewal  BA (Vassar College) MA (SOAS, London), PhD (Lancaster)  
South Asia

Dr Parvathi Raman  BA PhD (London)  
Anthropology and Sociology

Dr Rahul Rao  BA, LLB (India) DPhil (Oxon)  
Politics and International Relations

Professor Timon Screech  MA (Oxon) MA PhD (Harvard)  
Art and Archaeology

Dr Gabriele vom Bruck  MSc PhD (London)  
Anthropology and Sociology

Professor Lynn Welchman  MA (Cantab) PhD (London)  
Law

Dr Amina Yaqin  BA (Punjab) BA (Sussex) PhD (London)  
South Asia
The SOAS School of Law (SoL) is a distinctive and highly specialized department which combines thematic, disciplinary and specific regional expertise, with the strength of its research recognized in the increase in our ranking on REF2014. We increased our ranking in REF2014 compared to REF2008 and were ranked 15th of all UK Law Schools in the Guardian’s University Guide 2016 (up from no. 30 in 2014).

The School of Law has long been renowned as a world-class centre for research into the laws of South, Central and East Asian countries, African countries and the Middle East, comparative law, transnational and international law. Today its staff carry on that tradition in a new, globalized context and contribute to the development of the vital disciplines of 21st-century law.

The School of Law has an unrivalled concentration of specialists in the laws of Asian and African countries, with additional areas of expertise in the areas of comparative law, human rights, transnational commercial law, environmental law, international law and socio-legal method.

The School of Law attracts candidates for its research degrees from all over the world who wish to pursue advanced study in these fields. Lecturers in the School of Law are acknowledged experts in their fields and remain at the forefront of fostering both professional and interdisciplinary study. They maintain close links with professional practice and frequently have first-hand knowledge of the latest developments in business, government and international organizations. Each year, the School attracts a number of distinguished lawyers as research professors, research associates or visiting academics.

The School of Law leads and edits a number of publications, such as the *Journal of African Law*, the *Yearbook of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law* and the *Law, Environment and Development Journal*, and has established thematic or regional research centres that reflect our specialist research themes. In addition, the *SOAS Law Journal* founded in 2014 is edited, reviewed and contributed by undergraduate and postgraduate students. Staff members also co-founded and co-edit the *Muslim World Journal of Human Rights*, the *London Review of International Law*, and the *Oxford Islamic Legal Studies Series*. 
Our research programmes revolve around human rights, international law, economic and commercial law, law and development, dispute resolution, environmental law, law and gender, regional and religious laws, and law, culture and society. Principal themes include the following:

**Development and Pluralism**

We have unmatched expertise in national legal systems of the developing world. This core expertise is combined with critical perspectives (postcolonial, gender, political economy) on the role of law and legal institutions in development policy; culturally informed analysis of legal functions and institutions in African and Asian jurisdictions; knowledge and awareness of the continuing prestige of religiously derived legal traditions (especially Islamic); and interest in the field of alternative dispute resolution.

**Global Commercial Law**

The School of Law has a unique concentration of relevant expertise in global commercial, trade, comparative copyright law, corporate and financial law (including the Law of Islamic Finance); the law relating to multinational corporations; and WTO law. We benefit from our excellent position in London, one of the commercial and financial law capitals of the world.

**Globalization, Governance and Transition**

The School of Law commands research and teaching expertise in the norms, institutions and processes governing the global economy and transnational relations, particularly as they affect the legal/constitutional systems and social and economic policies of the emerging, developing and transition economies of South Asia, South East Asia, and Central Asia, China, and Sub-Saharan Africa. We offer critical perspectives on international economic law and related fields, notably trade law and the WTO law and governance reform as promoted by the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and other regional, multilateral and bilateral actors, including the UN, AU, ASEAN and EU.

**Human Rights, Conflict, Environment and Natural Resources**

We have an established reputation as a centre of expertise in human rights law and conflict (including armed forces, humanitarian law and legal dimensions of conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction) and environmental protection. Specialist areas include: economic and social rights, justice and reconciliation, conflict and globalization, gender equity and women’s role in conflict resolution; international and comparative environmental law in the context of development (sustainability); interrelation of national, regional, and international protection regimes, natural resources.

**Law and Colonialism**

The School of Law has long been concerned with the legal dimensions of colonial and postcolonial discourse. It offers a range of courses associated with examining the relationship between law, globalization and the enduring colonial heritage. These include Colonialism, Empire and International Law: Law and Globalization; Law and International Inequality; Human Rights in the Developing World; and Law, Institutions and the Political Economy of Transition.
Research Degrees
The School of Law accepts doctoral candidates for research work leading to a PhD degree. The central feature of PhD work is the close relationship between the researchers and his or her supervisor, in which they meet regularly and consult closely. This relationship is supported and strengthened in various ways:

- Every postgraduate researchers has an adjunct supervisor, another member of staff with a close interest in the relevant region and/or sub-field of the discipline, joined by the School of Law’s Research Tutor in the individual Research Committees that oversee the postgraduate researcher’s progress towards the PhD degree.

- All first-year doctoral candidates must attend the Research Methods Seminar in which all are required to present draft papers that constitute part of their upgrade document.

- Doctoral researchers in the School of Law may also be expected to take doctoral research training at the Faculty level.

- All researchers students are encouraged to contribute to the research activities of the Department, including the activities of the various research Centres and conferences and other projects organized by the School of Law.

Many SOAS postgraduate researchers spend time doing fieldwork in the region of their research. The School, and other members of SOAS, facilitate this work with personal contacts and introductions. The School’s language training facilities are also available to develop their facility in an appropriate language for research purposes. Applicants for PhD admission must normally have an advanced degree equivalent in level and content to the School of Law’s LLM or MA.
Departmental Centres

Centre for Human Rights Law
(www.soas.ac.uk/human-rights-law/)

The Centre for Human Rights Law aims to provide a forum for scholarship and collaborative approaches on human rights law in practice. Building on SOAS’ unique focus and experience, it seeks to advance research and the teaching of human rights law and related areas with particular reference to Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

Centre for the Study of Colonialism, Empire and International Law
(www.soas.ac.uk/cceil)

The Centre for the Study of Colonialism, Empire and International Law (CCEIL) is concerned with promoting research interrogating the contemporary and historical relationship between international law and forms of colonialism (postcolonialism, neo-colonialism and imperialism). It promotes research in the history of international law, in the application of postcolonial discourse to the contemporary world and the development of critical theoretical perspectives on the role played by international law in the developing world. CCEIL has an active student membership composed of both doctoral students and postgraduate master’s students.

Is Islamic Law compatible with human rights law?

Dr Mashood Baderin’s research on the relationship between Islamic Law and international human rights challenges the predominant perception that the relationship is grounded in conflict and, ultimately, incompatible. Considering a wide array of country case studies, his work illustrates that while the two legal systems do operate differently in terms of scope and application, they also share important commonalities that facilitate the fulfilment of human rights obligations in Muslim states.

Since 2008, Baderin’s evolving body of work on this topic has resulted in international recognition of his expertise and its widespread uptake, notably through his appointment as an advisor to DFID and FCO in the UK and as a UN Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan.
Centre of East Asian Law
(www.soas.ac.uk/ceal/)
The Centre of East Asian Law was established in 1988, with one of its principal functions being the promotion of the study of East Asian legal systems amongst scholars and practitioners. Based at the School of Law, the Centre brings together faculty and research students studying East Asian law.

Centre of Islamic and Middle Eastern Law
(www.soas.ac.uk/cimel/)
CIMEL promotes the study and understanding of Islamic and modern Middle Eastern legal systems by encouraging research, guest lectures, publications and academic exchanges. It maintains strong ties with lawyers, diplomats and international organizations interested or based in the wider Muslim world. At a historical juncture where Islam and the Middle East are subjects of extensive but sometimes poorly informed discussion, CIMEL furnishes an indispensable scholarly and policy resource base.

Law, Environment and Development Centre
(www.soas.ac.uk/ledc/)
The Law, Environment and Development Centre seeks to provide a focal point for the growing interest in the dynamic relationships between law, environment and development. The main goal of the LEDC is to advance research and teaching, and explore the role each of these disciplines plays in realizing sustainable development and natural resource use, particularly in the global South. The Centre adopts multidisciplinary approaches in researching key issues in environmental law and development today including water, land use, forests, climate change, intellectual property and indigenous people’s rights.

Recent PhD Theses


Aida Tamer Chammas – Accountability for Environmental Damage Arising out of Armed Conflict in International Law (2015)

Jean-Philippe Dequen – Evolution of the place of Islamic law within the Indian legal order, 1600-2014 (2015)

Sonia Zaman Khan – Democratic transition and the caretaker government in Bangladesh in a culture of mistrust (2015)

Sulaiman Al-Turki – Codification of Islamic Law in Saudi Arabia (2015)

Mimi Ajibadé – A case study of corporate governance practice of SMEs listed on ChiNext, China’s Growth Enterprise Market (2015)

Sia Eshghi – International Law, Cyber Space and Social Movements: A Critical Interjection (2014)


Owen Taylor – Revolution and International Law (2014)


Mudasra Sabreen – Rights of a Minor in the Case of Separation between Parents (A Comparative Study of Islamic Law and Pakistani Law) (2014)

Academic staff

Professor Mashood Baderin LLB (Hons) BL (Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria) LLM PhD (Nottingham) PGCE (Islamic law) Islamic Law, International and Comparative Human Rights Law; Public International Law; Human Rights & Islamic Law, especially interaction between International Law; Human Rights Law; and Islamic Law in Muslim States

Professor Fareda Banda BL LLB (Zimbabwe) DPhil (Oxon) Human Rights of Women; English Family Law; Comparative Family Law focusing on Africa; Law and Society in Africa; Alternative Dispute Resolution

Dr Samia Bano BA (Oxford Brookes) MA (Greenwich) PhD (Warwick) Muslim Family law in the UK and Europe; Family Law; Multiculturalism; Citizenship; Islamic Jurisprudence and Human Rights; Feminist and Critical Social and Political Theories; Issues concerning the rights of Muslim women and Gender Equality

Dr Gunnar Beck MA (Heidelberg) MPhil DPhil (Oxon) Barrister-at-Law European Union law; legal theory; legal reasoning and method in common law and civil law jurisdictions; moral and political philosophy

Dr Brenna Bhandar BA (Toronto) LLB (British Columbia) PhD (London) Indigenous rights, law and colonialism, post-colonial, feminist and critical legal theories

Dr Ernest Caldwell BA (Alabama) MA (Kansas) LLM (Singapore) PhD (Chicago) Laws of China and Taiwan; Comparative Constitutional Law; Human Rights in Asia; Law and Visual Culture; Legal History

Professor Matthew Craven BA LLM PhD (Nottingham) DipEd Public international law, human rights (economic, social and cultural rights), international legal theory, history of international law (colonialism and decolonisation), international dispute

Professor Philippe Cullet LLB (Geneva) LLM (London) MA (London) JSD (Stanford) Law and environment; law and natural resources; intellectual property; water and sanitation; human rights; international law, India

Dr Catriona Drew LLB (Aberdeen) PhD (London) Public international law; international legal history (particularly self-determination of peoples); legal theory

Mr Ian D Edge MA LLB (Cantab) Barrister-at-Law Islamic law; the general law of Egypt and the Gulf; commercial law in the Middle East; conflict of laws and international transactions

Dr Jonathan Ercanbrack BA (Utah) Vordiplom (Heidelberg) MSc (London) PhD (London) Financial laws of Arab state jurisdictions; Islamic financial law; legal change and globalisation

Mr Nicholas H D Foster MA (Cantab) Desu (Marseille) Comparative commercial and comparative corporate law, with special reference to Islamic law and the laws of the Middle East, in particular the UAE; Islamic finance

Dr Kate O’Grady LLB (Leeds) LLM PhD (Bristol), PGDip (UWE) Criminal law; public international law especially international criminal law, peace and security, peacekeeping, the United Nations, gender, and human rights

Dr Vanja Hamzić BDes (Sarajevo) BFA (Sarajevo) LLM (Nottingham) PhD (London) Islamic Law; Laws of South Asia (esp. Pakistan), South East Asia (esp. Indonesia) and the Arab World; Legal Anthropology; Legal Historiography (esp. Seljuk, Mamluk, Ottoman and Mughal Law); Human Rights Law; Gender, Sexuality and Law; Legal Theory; Law of Tort; Family Law; Law and Aesthetics/Art; Global Law/Governance
Dr Gina Heathcote BA LLB (Australia) LLM (Westminster) PhD (London)
International feminist legal theories; international law, especially law on the use of force; women’s human rights; political and legal theories

Professor Kevin Jon Heller JD (Stanford) PhD (Leiden)
Criminal Law; comparative criminal law; international criminal law; international humanitarian law; legal theory

Dr Catherine Jenkins LLM (London) MA (Oxon) Desu (Marseille), PhD (London) Solicitor
Human rights; transitional justice; law and conflict; international criminal law; post-conflict reform and reconstruction; legal developments in post-apartheid South Africa; law and society in Africa

Mr Paul Kohler MA (Cantab)
Property including land, personal and trusts; jurisprudence

Professor Martin W Lau MA PhD (London) Barrister-at-Law
Laws of South Asia; comparative environmental law; Islamic law

Dr Petra Mahy BA LLB (Monash) B. Asian Studies PhD (ANU)
Comparative Labour law; comparative company law; Legal history; Legal anthropology; Informal norms and institutions

Dr Makeen F Makeen LLB (Cairo) LLM PhD (London) Advocate, Court of Appeal, Egypt
Intellectual property (particularly comparative copyright law); information technology law; contract law; commercial law in the Middle East

Mr Scott Newton BA (Calif) JD MPA (Harvard)
Post-Soviet law and legal/institutional reform in Central Asia and CIS; law and development (markets and globalisation in developing and transitional states); law, governance and post-conflict reconstruction; human rights

Dr Paul O’Connell LLB (Dublin) LLM PhD (NUI)
Public Law, Human Rights (particularly Socio-Economic Rights), Legal Theory, Comparative Law and International Law

Dr Lutz Oette First State Exam (Koeln) LLM (London) Dr Jur (Koeln)
Public international law; human rights, particularly prohibition of torture; victims’ rights and reparation; human rights, law reform and justice in Sudan

Dr Emilia Onyema LLB (Nigeria) LLM (London), PhD (London)
International arbitration (commercial and investment); OHADA law; Commercial contracts; International sale of goods; International carriage of goods; Nigerian customary laws

Dr Yoriko Otomo BA/LLB (Hons) PhD (University of Melbourne)
Historical, feminist, critical

Dr Nimer Sultany LLB (College of Management) LLM (Tel Aviv) LLM (Virginia) SJD (Harvard)
Public Law; Legal and Political Theory; Comparative Constitutionalism; Public International Law and Human Rights Law

Mr Mayur Suresh BA LLB (Hons.) (National Law School of India), LLM (Columbia)
Anti-terror laws (particularly of South Asia); law and anthropology; legal theory (particularly on theories of emergency legality); sexuality and gender identity in South Asia

Professor Carol G.S. Tan LLB (London) LLM (London) PhD (London) Barrister-at-Law
Contract; legal history; British overseas rule and the law, especially in relation to the leased territory of Weihaiwei and to ethnic Chinese communities in Hong Kong and South East Asia; law and society in South East Asia; traditional Chinese law

Professor Lynn Welchman MA (Cantab) PhD (London)
Islamic law; law of the Middle East and North Africa, especially comparative family law; human rights; gender and law, Palestine and the law

Dr Sanzhu Zhu BA (Shanxi) LLM (Wuhan) PhD (London)
Chinese law; comparative commercial and corporate law with reference to China; legal aspects of Chinese financial and futures markets; civil procedure and dispute resolution in China, particularly securities disputes

For more information go to www.soas.ac.uk
Professor Laleh Khalili was awarded an ESRC grant for Military Mobilities and Mobilising Movements in the Middle East. In addition, two members of staff have been invited to spend 2015/16 at the Princeton Institute for Advanced Studies. The Department has also secured three Leverhulme Research Fellowships for 2015-16.

The Department of Politics and International Studies is globally renowned for its expertise in the politics of Africa, Asia and the Middle East, as well as its strengths in International Relations. Combining disciplinary expertise in Political Sociology, Political Economy, Political Theory, International Relations and Comparative Politics with regional and country expertise, it is a unique place to study. The Department has vibrant research clusters and is home to the Centre for International Politics of Conflict, Rights and Justice, the Centre for Comparative Political Thought and the Centre for the Politics of Energy Security; in addition, members of staff are involved in directing the Centre of Taiwan Studies and the Centre for Iranian Studies. The Department currently has two Leverhulme Early Career Fellows and approximately 60 doctoral researchers at any one time.

Research Degrees

The Department offers a doctoral degree in Politics and International Studies.

A central feature of PhD work is the close relationship between the doctoral researcher and the supervisor. However, doctoral researchers are also embedded in a doctoral programme involving structured research methods training, regular seminars, and an annual Research Student Conference. It provides an intellectually vibrant research atmosphere and a close community among researchers integrated in the Department. The research degree programme is overseen by the Research Tutor.

Every doctoral researcher has a primary supervisor as well as an adjunct supervisor – another staff member with a close interest in the region and/or sub-field of the discipline relevant to the thesis. All incoming PhD candidates are required to take a Research Methods training course in their first year. This consists of training in the Philosophy of Social Science, Research Design, and Research Ethics, as well as Qualitative, Quantitative and Interpretive Methods. Methods employed by students in the Department range from ethnographic and archival research to interviews and statistical analysis.

The Department is a member of the UBEL EHRC Doctoral Training Partnership, and doctoral researchers in the Department have access to a variety of training courses through this consortium. The Department is also a member of the Syracuse Consortium on Qualitative Research Methods (CQRM) and the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), providing researchers with full access to these networks and training resources.
The Department holds a regular research seminar in which both members of the Department and external scholars present their work. Doctoral researchers are encouraged to attend the seminars and to become involved in the intellectual life of the Department. During term-time a range of seminars on a variety of topics are held at SOAS and are open to the broader SOAS community. New PhD candidates are also encouraged to associate themselves with one or more of the thematic and regional centres housed at SOAS. The School’s language training facilities are available to doctoral candidates who have indicated a requirement on application to develop their facility in an appropriate language for research purposes.

Most SOAS doctoral researchers spend some time carrying out fieldwork in the regions of their research. The Department and the School facilitate this through training but also by integrating doctoral candidates into broader academic networks through personal contacts and introductions. Departmental staff have both disciplinary and regional interests and the majority have a command of one or more of the languages of the regions they study, having spent substantial periods doing research in the countries of their expertise. Applicants to the MPhil/PhD programme must normally have an advanced degree equivalent in level and content to the Department’s MSc degrees. Application guidance, including advice on research proposal writing, can be found in the Department’s Research Handbook.

Advocating local justice systems after conflict

Dr Phil Clark has published widely on political, social and legal responses to genocide and mass crimes in Central Africa, particularly community-based approaches to accountability and reconciliation.

In relation to the Rwandan genocide of 1994, Clark championed the use of Gacaca Courts (a system which allowed for respected individuals elected by local populations to prosecute cases against suspected perpetrators), despite widespread international criticism of the courts legitimacy. Employing original empirical evidence and interviews with hundreds of international, national and community stakeholders, Clark counters this scepticism, arguing that, while not without problems, mass participation in “truth-telling” and accountability has greatly facilitated reconciliation in the country.
Recent PhD Theses

Amir Khnifess – Israel and the Druze Political Action: Between Politics of Loyalty and Politics of Violence

Waleed Almusharaf Abdelrahman – Colonialism, Liberalism, Islamism: The Governmentalization of Islam and the Case of Turabi and the Sudanese Islamist Movement

Peter Brett – The Judicialisation of Political Order in Southern Africa

Margarita Dimova – Dealing with the State: Perspectives from the Heroin Trade in Kenya

James Eastwood – The ethics of Israeli militarism: soldiers’ testimony and the formation of the Israeli soldier-subject

Freya Irani – A Primary Concern With Domestic Conditions: Legal Representations of the National Economy and the Uneven Extraterritorial Extension of U.S. Antitrust and Labor Laws, 1945-2010

Marco Jowell – An Institutional Analysis of Peacekeeping Training Centres in Africa

Myung Ja Kim – Diaspora and Divided Homeland: Geopolitics and Nation-Building Policies toward the Zainichi Diaspora

Bala Mohammed Liman – Conflict and Identity in Nigeria: An Emerging Culture of Conflict in Northern Nigeria

Jamil Mouawad – The Negotiated State: State-Society Relations in Lebanon

Khaled Shaalan – The Political Agency of Egypt’s Upper Middle Class: Neoliberalism, Social Status Reproduction and the State

James Sunday – In the Shadow of the Pyramids - Power, Politics and Participation in Contemporary Egypt

Jeremy Taylor – “Japan is Back”, Japan’s (Re) Engagement in Africa: The Case of South Sudan

Academic staff

Dr Reem Abou-El-Fadl BA MPhil DPhil (Oxford) Nationalism in the Middle East; Foreign Policy Making in the Middle East; Egyptian Politics and History; Turkish Politics and History; Arab-Israeli Conflict

Dr Fiona B Adamson PhD (Columbia) International relations theory; international security; migration and diaspora politics; globalization and global governance; transnational identity movements

Professor Arshin Adib-Moghaddan PhD (Cantab) International politics of West Asia; Iranian foreign and domestic politics; critical theories of international relations; US foreign policy in the ‘third world’; Islamic political and intellectual history

Dr Rochana Bajpai PhD (Oxford) Contemporary political theory, particularly multiculturalism; methodology, particularly political ideologies; modern Indian politics

Dr Felix Berenskoetter PhD (LSE) International Relations identity, power, security, friendship, time, peace); European security and Transatlantic Relations

Dr Michael Buehler MSc PhD (LSE) Comparative Politics, Elections and Party Politics, Islam, Local Politics, Southeast Asian Politics, particularly Indonesia

Professor Stephen Chan OBE PhD (Kent) Politics of southern Africa; normative values and non-Western methodologies

Dr Phil Clark PhD (Oxford) History, politics and law of the African Great Lakes; transitional justice theory and practice; the politics of violence; community-based and customary law

Dr Bhavna Davé PhD (Syracuse) Central Asia; language, ethnicity and nationalism in post-Soviet countries

Dr Matthew Eagleton-Pierce PhD (Oxford) International Political Economy; politics of world trade and history of neoliberalism; conceptual analysis of power and legitimacy; international political sociology
Dr Dafydd Fell  PhD (London)
Taiwanese political parties; election advertising; social welfare; political corruption; public opinion; voting behaviour; gender equality; candidate selection; democratization

Dr Alastair Fraser  MA (Edinburgh) MSc (SOAS) DPhil (Oxford)
African politics; the political economy of international development; democracy, participation and resistance

Dr Enze Han  PhD (George Washington)
International Relations of East Asia, Chinese Politics, Ethnic Politics, Nationalism, Southeast Asia

Professor Stephen Hopgood  PhD (Oxford)
International relations theory; anthropology of the international; international politics of human rights

Dr Alastair Fraser  DPhil (Oxford)
African politics; the political economy of international development; democracy, participation and resistance

Professor Salwa Ismail  PhD (McGill)
Urban politics and state-society relations in the Middle East; the study of Islamism; modern Arab and Islamic politic thought; political ethnography

Professor Laleh Khalili  PhD (Columbia)
Policing and incarceration; gender; nationalism; political and social movements; refugees and diasporas in the Middle East

Dr Yuka Kobayashi  PhD (Oxon)
China and international politics; WTO; human rights; environment

Dr Tat Yan Kong  PhD (Oxon)
Korea and Taiwan: government-business labour relations; comparative political economy; late industrialization; development theory

Dr Hagar Kotef  PhD (Tel Aviv)
Political theory, postcolonial, feminist and critical theory; political violence; liberal thought; Israeli-Palestinian conflict’ movement and mobility

Dr Mark Laffey  PhD (Minnesota)
International relations theory; international security; foreign policy analysis; ideas, culture and ideology; postcolonial theory; US foreign policy

Dr Matthew J Nelson  PhD (Columbia)
South Asia; Islamic institutions; comparative politics; comparative political thought; democracy

Dr Kerem Nisancioglu  PhD (Sussex)
International historical sociology; historical materialism; postcolonialism; Ottoman Empire; Turkey, the Middle East

Dr Rahul Rao  DPhil (Oxon)
International Security; Indian foreign policy; Political Theory; Social Movements; Human Rights

Dr Meera Sabaratnam  PhD (LSE)
North-South Relations, International Theory, postcolonial and feminist approaches, global history, Indian Ocean, southern Africa

Professor Lawrence Sáez  PhD (Chicago)
Comparative and international politics: international political economy; fiscal policy; energy security; quantitative research methods, South Asia

Professor Julia C Strauss  PhD (Berkeley)
China and Taiwan; public administration; civil service; regulation; state and society; environmental politics

Dr Kristin Surak  PhD (UCLA)
International migration, nationalism, ethnicity, culture, state and society in Japan, qualitative sociology

Professor Charles R H Tripp  PhD (London) FBA
Middle East: states and ideologies; war; Islamic political thought

Dr Leslie Vinjamuri  PhD (Columbia)
International relations theory; international organization; the politics of international criminal justice; the international politics of human rights and humanitarianism; the international politics of religion and secularism

Dr Tom Young  PhD (London)
Southern Africa: international politics; South African domestic politics; political theory
MRes Politics with [language]

**Duration**
Two years (full-time)

**Start of programme**
September intake only

**Entry requirements**
Minimum upper second-class honours degree (or equivalent) in Politics or International Relations, or a related social science discipline

**Programme Convenor**
Dr Phil Clark
pc44@soas.ac.uk

The MRes Politics with [Language] is a two-year degree designed to prepare students for further research, particularly PhD research, in politics with an area specialism.

This degree programme allows students to combine the study of politics with advanced methodological training in the social sciences and extensive study in one of the African, Asian or Middle Eastern language listed below. As such, the programme provides two years of intensive language study at SOAS (e.g. Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Swahili) along with two years of high-level social science methodology training. Applicants are also invited to apply for ESRC funding to support a 2+3 programme of MRes/PhD study.

*A selection of courses is listed here. For the full up-to-date list of courses on offer please visit the website (https://www.soas.ac.uk/politics/programmes/mrespolitics/) or contact the Faculty Office. Some courses may be taught in other Departments of the School.*

**Core compulsory courses**
- Qualitative Methods
- Quantitative Methods
- Research Methods Masterclass

**A selection of course options**
- Government and Politics of Modern South Asia
- International Politics of Africa
- State and Society in the Chinese Political Process
- Government and Politics of Modern South East Asia
- Northeast Asian Politics: Japan, Korea and Taiwan
- Islam and Political Ideologies
- Politics of Resistance in the Middle East
- International Migration and Diaspora Politics
- Security Governance
- Conflict, Rights and Justice
- Violence, Justice and the Politics of Memory
- Geopolitics and Security in Central Asia and the Caucasus
- Sociology of International Norms

**A selection of language courses**
- Introduction to Standard Modern Arabic
- Special Course in Chinese 1 (Postgraduate)
- Hindi Language 1 (Postgraduate)
- Basic Japanese 1 (Postgraduate)
- Swahili 1 (Postgraduate)
- Thai Language 1 (Postgraduate)
Appendix

Departmental Centres

Faculty and Departmental Centres
Faculties and departments have a range of affiliated centres, which engage in research and teaching activity and also host regular events including workshops, seminars and conferences. Only those described in Part 2 have formal postgraduate research programmes, but the others are potentially important resources depending on your project.

Faculty of Arts and Humanities
Centre of Buddhist Studies
www.soas.ac.uk/buddhiststudies
Centre of Eastern and Orthodox Christianity
www.soas.ac.uk/ceoc
Centre for Gender and Religions Research
www.soas.ac.uk/grr
Centre of Jaina Studies
www.soas.ac.uk/jainastudies
Centre for Media Studies
www.soas.ac.uk/media-studies
Centre for Migration and Diaspora Studies
www.soas.ac.uk/migrationdiaspora
Centre for Music and Dance Performance Research
www.soas.ac.uk/musicanddance
Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions
www.soas.ac.uk/csjr
SOAS Food Studies Centre
www.soas.ac.uk/foodstudies
Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures
www.sainsbury-institute.org
Our Centres provide an exciting forum for collaboration in research and teaching within SOAS and in conjunction with other institutions. For further information on these Centres, please visit the respective websites.
Regional Centres

To encourage cooperation between specialists within regional and across disciplinary boundaries, the School has also developed a number of area or country research units, institutes or Regional Centres.

These include:
- Centre of African Studies
- SOAS China Institute
- Centre of Contemporary Central Asia and the Caucasus
- Centre for the Study of Pakistan
- Centre of Korean Studies
- SOAS South Asia Institute
- Centre of South East Asian Studies
- Japan Research Centre
- London Middle East Institute

Under their auspices, students and staff with different disciplinary backgrounds but common regional interests are able to discuss, share and advance their work in workshops, seminars, conferences and publications.

MA and research students are welcome members of the Regional Centres. These Centres also have collaborative links with government bodies, the media, business and community sectors.
Centre of African Studies

Since its establishment in 1965, the Centre of African Studies has evolved to meet the changing needs of researchers on Africa. In recognition of an increasingly inter-collegial membership, the Centre took on the role of helping to coordinate interdisciplinary research and study on Africa at the University of London as a whole from 1991. In addition to the Department of the Languages and Cultures of Africa, SOAS has Africa specialists in the departments of Anthropology and Sociology, History of Art and Archaeology, Development Studies, Diaspora Studies, Economics, History, Law, Linguistics, Literature, Music, Study of Religions and Politics and International Studies.

Centre members undertake research and teaching on Africa-related subjects at SOAS and at the other University of London colleges: University College London, the London School of Economics and Political Science, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Goldsmiths, King’s College London, Birkbeck, Royal Holloway, Queen Mary, the Institute of Commonwealth Studies and the Institute of Education.

The Centre also seeks actively to promote relations between Africanists, and institutions and individual scholars in Africa, and in European and American centres of African studies. It has run programmes of visiting scholarships for academics from Nigeria, East Africa and the Horn of Africa. In recent years, the Centre has administered a large fund on behalf of the prestigious Mo Ibrahim Foundation to fund PhD and MSc students from Africa on the topic of Governance and Development, and to organize an annual Residential School on Governance in Africa.

To facilitate and promote interdisciplinary research and teaching on Africa for its members, students and research associates, the Centre runs workshops, seminars, conferences and lectures. The Centre’s Annual Lecture is given by distinguished invited speakers of international standing, and recent lecturers have included Jane Goodall, Paul Berliner, Gus Casely-Hayford, Sokari Douglas Camp CBE and Yinka Shonibare MBE whose 2015 lecture celebrated 50 years since the foundation of the Centre.

The Centre also participates in knowledge transfer efforts at SOAS whereby Centre academics engage with industry practitioners, policy makers and other non-academic research users during seminars and workshops, thus providing an opportunity for managers from government departments and NGOs based in Africa or working on Africa-related issues to focus on and discuss topical issues affecting the African continent. For event listings or for further information visit www.soas.ac.uk/cas
SOAS China Institute

The SOAS China Institute (SCI) represents the largest community of China scholars working together under one roof in Europe. With more than 40 affiliated academics working across the various SOAS departments, the Institute promotes interdisciplinary, critically informed research and teaching on China. The Institute showcases the strength of Chinese Studies at SOAS in the humanities and the social sciences, from ancient times to the present.

The SOAS China Institute aims to be one of the world-leading centres for China expertise and pre-eminent in London. The SCI will channel the unrivalled breadth and depth of SOAS understanding of China to the wider worlds of government, business, media, education, the arts, NGOs and beyond.

Working with SOAS alumni and excellent partners in China and the surrounding region, the Institute is engaging actively in raising the SOAS profile in East Asia and fostering international collaboration. The Institute is also securing strategic philanthropic funding from a range of partners to expand the Institute’s reach and the impact of Chinese Studies at SOAS.

The Institute delivers interdisciplinary research seminars and workshops, organizes high profile lecture events, facilitates roundtable meetings on current affairs, and provides specialist briefings, short courses and bespoke training opportunities.

For details visit www.soas.ac.uk/sci
Centre of Contemporary Central Asia and the Caucasus

With the emergence of the independent states of Central Asia and the Caucasus, SOAS has expanded its teaching and research resources for these important regions. SOAS currently hosts a multidisciplinary team of scholars working on Central Asia and the Caucasus, the largest grouping in any single institution in Europe. Alongside those engaged in the study of contemporary problems of post-Soviet transition, there is a broader grouping of scholars involved in the study of neighbouring areas (Iran and Afghanistan) and the archaeology, religion, linguistics, pre-history and history of Central Asia and the Caucasus, lending breadth and depth to the study of the region.

The Centre was founded in 2001 in recognition of the School’s long-standing interest in the region and its potential as a UK centre of excellence.

The principal role of the Centre is to promote, coordinate and disseminate information relating to the academic study of Central Asia and the Caucasus across the disciplines and to act as a resource for academic, governmental, non-governmental and business constituencies with an interest in Central Asia and the Caucasus. It does this through the research and publications of its staff, new teaching programmes, an established seminar series and special events.

The key activities of the Centre include organizing bi-weekly public seminars during term time, holding the annual Anthony Hyman Memorial Lecture on a topic related to Afghanistan and organizing and sponsoring regular conferences related to Central Asia, the Caucasus and Afghanistan.

For details visit www.soas.ac.uk/cccac or www.facebook.com/CentralAsia.SOAS
Centre for the Study of Pakistan

Pakistan contains one of the world’s oldest urban civilizations, Mohenjodaro, and the banks of the Indus have been a world centre of culture, warfare and religion ever since. Described as one of the most dangerous places in the world, Pakistan has been in the news continuously for more than a decade. Public interest in Pakistan is perhaps at an all-time high, but this interest is often limited to a narrow account of politics and religious terrorism. The Centre for the Study of Pakistan at SOAS liaises with and acts as a resource for, external relations and has collaborative links with a number of constituencies for institutions in London, the UK and overseas.

The Centre hosts a fortnightly seminar series, public lectures, roundtable events, film screenings and academic conferences. In 2012 the Centre held its first successful annual lecture in collaboration with the Rangoonwala Foundation and the Pakistan High Commission. In 2012 the Centre also became a successful collaborator with a major RCUK project on Trust, Muslims and Cultural Dialogue that ran from 2012-2015. Centre members are actively involved in new research initiatives across the School and the Centre works closely with CSAS. The Centre supports new initiatives by doctoral research students working on the region and aims to nurture ground-breaking research in the field as well as to develop the study of Pakistan beyond its territorial borders.

For details visit www.soas.ac.uk/csp or www.facebook.com/Pakistan.SOAS
Centre of Korean Studies

Created in 1987 with the support of the Korea Research Foundation (subsequently the Korea Foundation), this has been the leading academic centre of its kind in the UK since its establishment. It coordinates work undertaken on Korea in various Departments of the School and offers expert knowledge and advice on Korea to interested outside parties.

The Centre oversees programmes at the BA, MA, and MPhil/PhD level in Korean Studies. With growing numbers of students and PhD candidates in Korean Studies and studies related to Korea (also outside SOAS in other Colleges of the University of London), the Centre has become a forum where research in progress can be presented and discussed in front of an informed audience. One of the main activities of the Centre is the on-going Seminar Series. Speakers and scholars from around the world who are engaged in diverse fields of work related to Korea are invited to speak at the seminars, which are held regularly during the academic year.

The Centre also hosts workshops and conferences organized by Korean studies associations, such as the British Association of Korean Studies (BAKS) and the Association of Korean Studies in Europe (AKSE). In 2006, the Centre was selected as the first European beneficiary of the AKS Korean Studies Institution Grant programme. The SOAS-AKS Institution Grant Project promotes and supports a range of multi-disciplinary and cross-national research output.

To date, this includes a range of seminar papers, workshop and conference proceedings, as well as forthcoming book and periodical publications.

For details visit www.soas.ac.uk/koreanstudies or www.facebook.com/Korea.SOAS
SOAS South Asia Institute

Since its inception in 1916, SOAS has been an important international centre for the study of South Asia. In 1966, the Centre of South Asian Studies was established to coordinate the research of the South Asian specialists spread widely throughout SOAS. In 2014 the Centre was expanded to create a new South Asia Institute.

The Institute is the meeting place for over 50 full-time South Asian specialists in the teaching staff of SOAS. They include academics focusing on Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka from a range of disciplinary perspectives, including those of anthropology, development studies, economics, history, languages, law, literature, media, music, political science and religious studies.

The Institute is responsible for organizing and publicizing academic activities on South Asia, including collaborative research projects, seminars, workshops, and conferences. It is a central point of contact between SOAS and the UK on issues connected with South Asia, and between SOAS and universities in South Asia.

The Institute’s programmes are mostly open to the public and are advertised online. It publishes an annual review at the start of the academic year which gives an overview of recent activities of the Institute and its members.

For details visit www.soas.ac.uk/southasianstudies
Centre of South East Asian Studies

The Centre of South East Asian Studies encourages and supports research by both staff and students. It promotes joint, interdisciplinary and longer-term research, to which research for postgraduate degrees is often linked. Some 30 members of staff, from all the disciplines represented at the School, are engaged in supervising doctoral students’ research degree projects.

The research interests of the staff include cultural studies, gender and sexuality, cinema and film, traditional and modern literature, language pedagogy, linguistics, phonetics and sign languages in a variety of South East Asian contexts.

The Centre stimulates a lively research culture concerned with South East Asian issues. Its seminars and programme of events promote interdisciplinary study, research and discussion and disseminate a wider awareness of the region.

The Centre also acts as a forum for the University of London as a whole, and more generally for South East Asianists in the universities of southern Britain, especially through its email network. It works closely with the Association for South East Asian Studies in the UK (ASEASUK) and with the European Association of South East Asian Studies (EUROSEAS), as well as having special relations with a number of universities in South East Asia.

More broadly, the Centre seeks to link higher education, government and business, in part through the SOAS Research and Enterprise Office.

For details visit www.soas.ac.uk/cseas or www.facebook.com/SouthEastAsia.SOAS
Japan Research Centre

SOAS has one of the largest concentrations of specialists in Japanese Studies outside Japan itself, in fields including anthropology, art and archaeology, drama, economics, history, language and literature, linguistics, management, media and film, politics and religion. The Japan Research Centre develops and coordinates teaching, research and outreach activities, drawing on the expertise of our academic staff, as well as a substantial number of research associates and academic visitors, from leading universities in the UK and abroad, including Japan itself. The activities and responsibilities of the Centre include:

- weekly research seminars during term time;
- two annual lectures, the Meiji Jingu Autumn Lecture and the Kayoko Tsuda Annual Lecture, which are given by leading international figures in Japanese Studies. Recent lecturers have included Norma Field, Joy Hendry, Anne Walthall and Sepp Linhart;
- occasional research workshops and colloquia. Recent topics have included Sake tasting, calligraphy, tea ceremony and shunga;
- occasional film screenings and performances. Recent films have included documentaries on the Japanese tsunami and the new poor in Japan. Performances have included kabuki and shinnai narration;
- an up-to-date website of Japan-related activities in SOAS;
- an annual review of the activities of the Centre, its members and associates;
- administering the Tsuda Bursary and Meiji Jingu;
- studentships for doctoral researchers;
- maintaining close links with Japanese scholars and universities.

For details visit www.soas.ac.uk/jrc or www.facebook.com/Japan.SOAS
London Middle East Institute

The London Middle East Institute (LMEI) is a leading resource that draws on both the unrivalled academic expertise on the Middle East at SOAS and the capital’s connections with the region – whether political, social, cultural, commercial, scientific or educational. Through its extensive outreach programme, the LMEI promotes knowledge of all aspects of the Middle East, serving the general public and those who have a special interest in the region alike.

An important feature of the Institute’s work is to organize conferences and seminars. Its Tuesday Evening Lecture Programme on the Contemporary Middle East attracts large audiences from SOAS and beyond.

The Institute also sponsors seminars and exhibitions, conducts training and has its own website www.soas.ac.uk/lmei. It has an active publication programme: its monthly magazine, The Middle East in London, continues to be a vital source of information and commentary on Middle East matters – whether political or cultural – in London. In addition to its publishing series with Saqi Books, which is entitled SOAS Middle East Issues, LMEI has a further series on the Political Economy of the Middle East and North Africa with Routledge.

The LMEI has established two Regional Centres as catalysts to trigger a wide variety of academic and cultural activities. Its Centre for Iranian Studies has now been in existence for two years and has been extremely productive, setting up an MA in Iranian Studies, holding regular film evenings and hosting a large number of cultural events, especially concerts. The Centre for Palestine Studies is only just over a year old but it has already organized several lectures while work is now underway on an MA in Palestine Studies.

The Institute is happy to respond to requests from both the public and private sectors to provide tailored briefings on the Middle East and undertakes consultancies and executive education. In conjunction with SOAS Research and Enterprise Office it offers annual executive education courses on Political Islam. Another important milestone was reached when in 2013 the LMEI held its first Summer School.
For all enquiries prior to submission of an application and for advice on studying at SOAS, including available programmes and courses, entry requirements, application procedures, housing, living costs etc.

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For queries following submission of your application.
T: +44 (0)20 7898 4320
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Key
- SOAS buildings
- Halls of residence

For more information go to www.soas.ac.uk
Photography

These photographs have been selected from the SOAS Photography Competition. All photographs were taken by SOAS students or staff.

List of people in photos, with page numbers.

Disclaimer

This document is a guide for applicants for research programmes. Inevitably, the details covered by this document are subject to change from time to time, although every effort is made to ensure that information is accurate and up-to-date. If applicants require further information or confirmation of any matter, they should contact the Doctoral School Section, Registry. SOAS reserves the right to alter or withdraw any degrees, courses or parts of courses. All offers of admission to pursue a programme of study as a registered student of the School are made by the Director of Student and Registry Services or his officially authorized deputy. No promise or purported offer made otherwise than in accordance with this regulation has any validity.

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